

DELEGATES' REPORTS

— ON —

WESTERN CANADA

1900

OTTAWA:

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Winnipeg, Man., 10th June, 1898.

We, the undersigned delegates from Watertown, South Dakota, have just visited the district lying around Ponoka on the Edmonton Railway.

We are much pleased with the appearance of this district, soil a rich, deep black loam. Hay and water in abundance, and there is plenty of timber for building and fuel.

There is good homestead land to be had from 6 to 12 miles from the station.

The cattle in this neighborhood are in fine condition, and we did not see a single animal poor in the district, which is a new district, and not so thickly settled as around Edmonton and Wetaskiwin.

We found the farmers doing well and satisfied with their prospects, and were uniformly treated by all the Government officials, who are most obliging.

(Sgd.)

J. E. Spicer,
D. C. Richardson.

Mr. Jas. B. Truscott, of Midland, Faulk Co., South Dakota, after making a trip through the Canadian West, and before settling there himself, wrote: "I saw Fife wheat 4 ft. 8 inches high, yielding 40 bushels per acre; oats, 4 ft. high, yielding 75 bushels per acre. I met a Mr. Miller, who came here 17 years ago; he is now well off. He says he never missed a crop. He sold cattle last year to the amount of \$213, and this year, so far, to the amount of \$145. The people are the most cordial, the most hospitable, I ever met. The climate is mild and healthful, the land is free, the harvest is sure and the profit is rich."

Winnipeg, 3rd Nov., 1898.

I, Adolf Haberkorn, delegate from Zoll, South Dakota, visited Western Canada in the interests of several farmers of that district, as well as to convince myself whether this country was suitable for mixed farming. I was very much satisfied with the country, its products were splendid, the

grain was good in quality and the yield enormous. Wheat yielding from 30 to 40 bushels per acre; barley 60 bushels, oats from 75 to 100 bushels. The soil is the best I have ever seen, black loam, with clay subsoil, that will seemingly, from what I have seen, raise anything. I drove out 35 miles north of Edmonton, and one would have to go as far out as this in order to get free homestead lands, although railway lands can be had much nearer for \$3.00 per acre. I interviewed numbers of farmers and everybody had a good word to say for the country. I was so favorably impressed that I have determined to throw in my lot with the country and also persuade all I come in contact with to do the same, as I am sure they will do well.

(Signed)

Adolph Haberkorn.

Edmonton, Alta., July 8, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg Man.

Sir: The Edmonton district is just beautiful and the soil the richest we have ever seen, and we are all thoroughly convinced that it cannot be excelled for mixed farming. We drove through several large settlements and everywhere found the farmers prosperous and contented. They have natural market to the Kootenay country and the Northern Gold Fields; therefore, good prices are obtained for all farm produce. The cattle are easily grown and bring splendid prices; also all kinds of fowls. We found plenty of schools and churches, and from information received we are satisfied that the educational system is hard to beat, and the taxes very light. We also learned that the Government creameries, which are established at various points, have been on account of the perfect system of management, a great benefit financially to the farmer.

W. H. Shields, South Dakota.
Ezra Ferguson, South Dakota.
R. B. Vedder, South Dakota.
S. Wellington, South Dakota.
J. B. Perry, Minnesota.

Prince Albert, Sask., 29th Dec., 1898.

On arriving at Regina the morning of the 24th inst., I found a government agent just leaving for Prince Albert, and I accompanied him. I was driven to the "Ridge," as it is called, and thence to the Red Deer Hill district, passing through a very fine farming region, and evidently a rich one, judging by the numerous well-equipped homesteads which were scattered over the country. The country is somewhat hilly and is plentifully wooded with clumps or belts of poplar. All the homesteads I passed seemed to be thriving, and the stock especially took my attention, being away ahead of our stock in South Dakota.

I also drove to the South branch of the Saskatchewan. Judging by surface and the natural features of this extensive tract, it is eminently suited for settlement, and being greatly pleased with it, upon being joined by my two companions from South Dakota, Messrs. Ughman and Boece, who had been examining the region of which Rosthern is the centre; we all drove over again to have a more thorough look at this fine district. The scenery is beautiful, the lands clear and water and wood convenient, and I can highly recommend it as offering some of the most-desirable locations for mixed farming along the Saskatchewan river.

From all I have seen, and from what I have learnt from others, there is no more inviting region for the intending emigrant from South Dakota to Western Canada than the country I have been enabled to examine. Immediately upon my return to Dakota my intention is to dispose of my interests there and to remove to one or other of the districts above referred to, and shall not hesitate to advise my friends to do so likewise.

(Signed)

James Legg.

Winnipeg, 8th Oct., 1898.

William F. McCreary, Esq.,

Immigration Commissioner, Winnipeg, Man.

I. E. Ferguson, from Brookings Co., South Dakota, visited the Edmonton district in the months of June and July, for the

purpose of finding a suitable location for myself, and acting otherwise as a delegate in the interests of a number of the surrounding farmers. I was so much impressed with the country that I decided to locate and am now on my way up with a car of effects. I found two French boys settled in the neighborhood of township 57, range 25 west of the 4th meridian. They came into the country about four years ago with nothing; they told me that they had managed to peg along, to break up twenty acres after the first year, which they cropped and threshed out 800 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat. This helped them along; they then broke another twenty acres, making in all forty acres, which they had cropped the fall previous to my visit, threshing 1,900 bushels of as good a wheat as a man could want to look at. They had good buildings and 8 head of cattle, besides calves and 8 horses, and a pile of lumber ready for use, 6 feet high, 18x24. I reckon if these two young men whom I questioned and found out did not owe a dollar, could get along like that in four years, then I want to try the same country and do the same and I don't see what is to hinder me.

(Signed)

E. Ferguson.

ADMIRABLY ADAPTED FOR MIXED FARMING.

Read What an Iowa Farmer Says About Alberta.

Eldora, Ia., Dec. 8, 1897.

I have never seen finer crops in my life than those I saw at Edmonton. The yield was something enormous. I saw wheat that yielded more than 50 bushels per acre, and oats that ran over 120 bushels per acre. The average for the entire district was about 45 bushels of wheat and over 85 bushels of oats per acre, and these would grade No. 1 in any market in the world.

I find the country very rich in natural resources. The soil—a rich black, sandy mould on a good clay subsoil—is the richest I ever saw. The climate is perfectly delightful. Fuel, in the form of wood and coal, is abundant throughout



HARVESTING IN WESTERN CANADA.

the country. Among the forest trees I noticed spruce, tamarac, poplar, pine and birch. The spruce and pine are found in sufficient quantity to furnish the building material for many years to come, while poplar, valuable for fencing and fuel, may be found almost anywhere.

Among the natural grasses of the country I found pea vine, slough grass, red top and blue joint, all of which were very nutritious.

The country is admirably adapted for mixed farming, and is as good for dairying and ranching as for grains.

I spent nearly six weeks in the country and found that the farmers are making lots of money, and are well satisfied with everything, laws, prices, people, etc., etc. In fact, I think it is the best country for a man, either rich or poor, to make money I ever saw. I have spent my life on a farm, consequently I am in a position to know whereof I speak.

I am satisfied that in none of your literature are the advantages of Western Canada overdrawn, and all you told me of the country hardly does it justice, for I found it all that you represented, and more, too. So well am I pleased with the country that in the spring, if I can arrange matters here, I will go back to that country, purchase a piece of land and put it in shape for my future home.

I am, Sir, Very Truly,

J. Frank Pollard.

Mr. Pollard, along with several others, left in the spring of 1898.

Yorkton, Assiniboia, April 7, 1898.

Mr. N. Bartholomew, Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Sir I believe I should write to you and tell you how well we are pleased with the country out here. We have rented for the first year, as we wanted to get settled and the snow is too deep to look for a place to suit us. We got splendid terms on the place; crop rent. The men are going out to-day with a load of goods—it is 25 miles from York-

ton. Furniture is terribly high here owing to the freight. I like the people here and they are all pleased with the country and are making money. This appears to be a splendid country for farming. I never saw people do so well as they do here.

Yours truly,

Mrs. R. S. Osborne,

Theodore P. O., N.W.T.

Via Yorkton.

DELEGATE OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS.

J. S. Crawford, 214 West Ninth St., Kansas City.

I have travelled through Manitoba, Assiniboia and Alberta. In these three provinces there is most everything a man wants in farming and stock-raising. I have travelled about 2,500 miles by railroad and about 500 miles by team.

Land can be bought cheaper there and on better terms than it can in the States. There is no trouble for a man that is willing to work to make a start there. Others have done it. The people there are willing to see a poor man come there; they are willing to help him along. It is my intention to settle in the Northwest of Canada. I will go between now and spring, and a good many others, if they can get off.

Yours, etc.,

J. D. Langlois,

Hutchinson, Reno Co., Kansas.

June 25th, 1898.

Winnipeg, 3rd November, 1898.

On my road to Edmonton I stepped off at Wetaskiwin, a lively little colony about 40 miles south of Edmonton. The country, rolling park-like prairie, is well settled on either side of the track, and settlers seem to be doing well. There is a fine government creamery running here, which turns out thousands of pounds of butter. From here I went to Edmon-

ton and inspected the country and settlement to the north. I found surprising yields of grain of all descriptions and the samples were all No. 1.

I also saw a considerable number of stock. Swine do well, and there is no disease amongst them; they are a good source of income to the farmer. The cattle on the range beat anything I ever saw. Fat and ready for beef, fully matured and ripened on the nutritious grasses of the prairie. I am firmly convinced that this country offers better facilities for a poor man than any I have ever seen.

(Signed.)

W. R. Corser,
Higginsville, Lafayette Co., Miss.

Calgary, April 20th, 1898.

On Tuesday morning we started east from South Edmonton, and soon passed two large ravines, heavily timbered, with a beautiful stream running in the valley. We soon entered a delightful country: some scrub, but not sufficient to be any detriment, plenty of good timber, well watered, and we must say a very desirable district. We examined the stubble of last year on the fields, and never saw its equal. From one grain has germinated as high as 42 stalks of wheat.

We called on Mr. Isaac Dose, from Iowa. We found his buildings good; good wheat and oats, splendid cattle, hogs and sheep, all in good condition; his farm neatly fenced and everything thrifty. He had only been two years on his place. Mrs. Dose is well pleased with the country; put up sufficient wild fruit that she had gathered herself to do a large family for the entire year.

We called at the farm of Mr. J. Carscaden, Section 4, Tp. 53, Range 23. We found him a very prosperous farmer. He has been sixteen years settled here. He came without any capital, and, displaying his hands, said, "This was my capital." He has 400 acres of land, 50 cattle, 10 horses. His cattle were all fat, and were wintering on straw; his horses good, and 3-year-old colts of his own raising weighed 1,250 lbs.; good farm equipment, good comfortable buildings. He

said: "I do not owe any man a dollar, and I have money in the bank." He has plenty of grain in his granary. He has had no failures in sixteen years, and has grown eleven consecutive crops on same land without rest. His lowest average was 23 bushels of wheat and his highest was 56 bushels. Last year his entire crop averaged 37½ bushels of wheat, and the wheat weighed 64 lbs. to the bushel. His oats have run from 45 to 60 bushels, and he has threshed as high as 110 bushels of oats to the acre. We also saw fine samples of barley that yielded 45 bushels per acre. Potatoes were good and yielded from 400 to 500 bushels per acre. We examined some excellent Timothy hay, which had been cut over three years, and would average two tons to the acre, and a beautiful sample of Timothy seed in his granary. Twenty-six stooks of Timothy, 10 sheaves to the stook, threshed seven bushels and 39 lbs. to the bushel. His cream is delivered at the creamery, and the butter netted him 16½ cents per lb. He has an excellent lot of poultry. Mrs. Carscaden says she likes the country well, and cannot say that she has ever endured any hardships. She had good neighbors, good schools, churches and Sabbath school, and every comfort she could wish. She gathered enough wild fruit last summer to do the family one year—raspberries, currants, gooseberries, and saskatoons and blueberries grow in great abundance, and are quite as nice as the domestic varieties.

We were shown other farms; all excellent places, good crops and buildings, good equipments and all getting rich. The farm of Arthur Gray was pointed out, who last year sold five barrels of ripe tomatoes. Giving a good deal of his attention to gardening, he produces pumpkins, cauliflower, vegetable marrow, and all vegetables do exceedingly well with him. This is in the Clover Bar district, about 15 miles east of Edmonton. A young man was stopped on the road driving a team, and put the following questions: "How long have you been here?" "Six years." Tell me how you like the country, and how much wheat you grow. "I like the country well. Our crop last year yielded 40 bushels per acre, and all our crop was exceedingly good. Potatoes and

roots. Oats threshed 70 bushels to the acre. My name is Jacob Kelly. I live near Beaver Hills.

From North Edmonton we started with twenty-two in our number; we drove north, and soon entered a splendid country. We halted at the farm of D. E. Gates, who personally knew four of our party, being neighbors in Isabella County, Michigan. He was pleased to see his old friends, and more than satisfied with the country. He has been two years in Alberta; sold his wheat last year for 60 cents, and his oats for 28 cents. He rented a place and threshed 1,200 bushels of wheat. He said: "I have seen more money in one year here than I earned in twenty in Michigan. I had no money last spring, but machine men and others gave me credit and treated me generously, and last fall I paid every cent. I would not take a thousand acres as a gift in Michigan and go back there to live, and give up the chances for myself and sons in this great country. Taxes are low; only school taxes are paid. I pay only school taxes. I have more in my granary now than I retain after selling last year's production, than I used to raise in Michigan. My wheat weighed 64 lbs. to the bushel last year. My sons are highly satisfied and my wife is pleased with the country. Last winter was very mild, and I fed my stock all winter without any gloves or mitts on my hands."

At Wetaskiwin we visited the creamery and found it a thoroughly equipped industry, very modern, and run by the Dominion Government in the interests of the farmer patrons. This is the best creamery we ever saw, and gives all the profit to the farmer. They test the individual cows for patrons of the factory to show their intrinsic value as butter producers. A charge of 4 cents per lb. is the only cost for making butter. This creamery in the short season made 18,000 lbs. last year. One farmer, named Adam Wise, in a few months last summer, was paid \$325 for the production of 25 cows.

The land between Wetaskiwin and Dried Meat Lake is not so good, although some very good localities are found. It was well watered and timbered. We examined timber 50

feet long, squared to about 12 inches at the butt, and the tamarac variety. The potatoes we saw here were the finest we had ever seen, dry and smooth, and averaged 300 bushels to the acre. Bringing up a bushel, we think they would average a half pound each in weight, and were exceptionally large. Wheat threshed 33½ bushels to the acre. Fishing is good. Two boys in a few hours caught 274 lbs. of fish through a hole in the ice, last winter—pike and pickerel of a very good quality, and good size.

We have decided to settle down ourselves in Western Canada and direct the attention of all to this great country, so much of which we have been permitted to visit under such favorable circumstances.

We saw at Wetaskiwin nine carloads of splendid cattle shipped the morning we left.

We have the honor to be,

Yours most respectfully,

T. A. Welk, Buhler, Kansas.

A. D. Welk, Buhler, Kansas.

Jacob Bartel, Buhler, Kansas.

Peter Berg, Durham, Kansas.

H. S. Hall, Omaha, Nebraska.

George J. Whiting, Watling, Nebraska.

J. S. Kirkpatrick, Fair County, Michigan.

C. W. Parker, South Omaha, Nebraska.

George M. Lackie, Omaha, Nebraska.

Peter Morgan, Mellett, South Dakota.

N. M. Morgan, Bright, South Dakota.

Arthur Jarvis, Bloomer, Chippewa Co., Wis.

Mathias Steffes, Redfield, S. Dakota.

D. Clark, Cadott, Chippewa Co., Wis.

J. J. Wilcox, Iona, Michigan.

T. H. Graham, Isabella Co., Michigan.

Charles Ross, Cook Co., Nebraska.

J. D. Langlois, Hutchinson, Kansas.

D. L. Campbell, Omaha, Nebraska.

Alfred Lafevre, Kawkalin, Michigan.

John Provost, Auburn, Michigan.

Wetaskiwin, Alta., April 5th, 1898.

Dear Sir: I do not find this part any colder than in Iowa, and am feeling much better than when I left there March 1st. I think this a great country for those who are suffering with throat and lung troubles. I have seen men that had as high as 51 bushels wheat per acre and near 100 bushels oats, but they weigh from 45 to 51 pounds per bushel, but the general run is 25 to 30 wheat; 50 to 75 oats, and stock looking fine; some cattle running out were nearly in market flesh.

I expect to return to the States late this fall for stock, etc. Will write you when I want to go. Thanking you all for past favors.

Most respectfully yours,
(Signed) Dr. D. E. Strevell.

Alameda, Assa., 14th October, 1898.

Sir: Our delegation of W. H. Lacey, of Mitchellville, Polk County, Iowa; Thonfas Keyes, of the same place, and Frank Goetz, of Clark, Clark County, South Dakota, left Winnipeg by the Southwestern and Souris Branch of the C. P. R., for a trip through Southern Manitoba and on to Moose Mountain, in Eastern Assiniboia.

En route to Elm Creek we passed numerous farms and hay meadows, and a good supply of small timber. On the way to Rathwell we passed over flat low-lying prairie, with, in many parts, belts or clumps of small poplar, hay meadows and occasional swamps—a region quite suited to stock-raising and mixed farming, though we saw very few cattle. We passed the innumerable stooks and stacks of Trehérne, Holland and Glenboro, east of which the yield is this year about 20 bushels to the acre. Eight to ten bushels to the acre is the ordinary yield in our States, though here it seems to be looked upon as a failure.

Coal is in general use, costing at Melita \$3.50 a ton, and at Alameda \$2.90, but many farmers draw their own coal from the mines, buying it there at \$1.25 per ton. There is a great

extent of coal-bearing country—a fact of immense importance in the future to Southern Manitoba and Assiniboia.

The soil of the region on the route to Melita is pretty much of the same character throughout, though with some exceptions. Generally speaking, the soil from Hartney to Oxbow is much alike, consisting of a surface of loam from 18 inches to 3 feet in depth, with blue clay beneath. At Alameda the surface soil is heavier, but the sub-soils are the same. The whole country is flat, or slightly rolling. Water is found at all depths, from 12 to 40 feet, mostly good.

In the Alameda district there is much unsettled and uncultivated land belonging to absentees, speculators, and non-resident pre-emptors, but a great deal of homestead land is still open for entry a few miles from Alameda, which is very inviting and convenient to this market town.

We find in Southern Manitoba that the sole dependence is in wheat. A few cows are kept, and we heard of one man near Melita, who makes 100 pounds of butter weekly. There is, therefore, some dairying here and there, but not much.

Northward, near Dalesboro, the country is rolling and intersected by several wide and ancient dry watercourses. Here, too, there, too, the country is streaked with small boulders, and the soil itself, which is a vegetable mould of about 12 inches, resting upon a yellowish clay loam of great depth is unmixed with a fine gravelly limestone excellent for wheat. Towards the Anderson farm we began to see evidences of mixed farming and to notice that cattle rapidly increased in numbers as we passed onwards to Moose Mountain, where stock-raising is now a large industry. The yield of wheat is 20 bushels to the acre and of oats 45.

Shortly after leaving Dalesboro we came in sight of Moose Mountain stretching for 36 miles from east to west and 18 miles wide. To this mountain settlers come for timber from all quarters. For a few miles settlement was sparse, but nearing it we found that along its southern slope it was thickly settled. Here are some substantial farmers, who, to a man, are stock-raisers as well as grain-growers, most of

whom have been here for fifteen years, and are now well off. Mr. Hislop, at whose place we spent the night, has this year 65 acres in wheat, 30 in oats, and owns 50 cattle, his return being 20 bushels of wheat to the acre. He feeds his straw in winter, the cattle remaining in the mountain all summer, and only coming down as winter comes on. In the immense ranges of the mountain hay is found in vast meadows, and in unlimited quantities, and some settlers draw it home for winter feeding, but in general they build cabins for stockmen and winter their cattle in the numberless hollows, forests and groves in the mountain itself, where there is no end of ponds besides two large lakes abounding in fish.

Towards the north on the western spur there are now some extensive sheep ranches, the total flocks numbering at present over 20,000. Along the plains we saw hundreds of grey geese and cranes, many of the feeding on the stubble, almost careless of our passing, and prairie chickens too we are told are plentiful. Breaking is done with three horses and the plow scours perfectly. Summer-fallowing and sowing on stubble are both practised, the latter being followed after one year of fallowing. The settlers generally came in poor and are now well off.

There is little, if any, good homestead land in the vicinity of the mountain on the south side now available. On the east side, from Cannington eastward to the Pipestone extension grade there is a very large extent of country open for entry. It is more rolling than any we have yet seen, the soil being excellent and there are numberless dried-up ponds in all directions bearing excellent hay.

We crossed the country to the French settlement, some 30 families from Belgium and France living in sod houses, but generally making headway — and the following morning passed through the English settlement on the North Antler, the creek here being really a fine stream. Some 50 families are settled in these parts with comfortable surroundings and all prospering. Thence we returned to Alameda, having travelled some 250 miles by wagon train across country and seen an immense extent of first-class land which the new

railway will open for settlement, and which we can justly recommend to our friends.

On our return to Alameda we drove across country to La Roche Percee, partly to examine the lands on the route, but immediately to look into the coal measures there, which, as settlers are now hauling wood from Moose Mountain to the settlements visited (in some cases 35 miles) is of incalculable importance to the rich agricultural regions we have described, but as this and our impressions of the country divided by the "Soo" line of railway form a separate report, we need add nothing further here other than a list of prices of agricultural implements and other important items for the guidance of our friends.

Prices of Implements at Alameda.

	American Make.
McCormick binder	\$ 155 00
McCormick mower	55 00
Rake (Thomas) 8-foot	28 00
Plow, Moline breaker	22 50
Stubble plow, 14-inch	23 00
Sulky plow, 16-inch	58 00
Sulky Malone Dutchman	58 00
Sulky Gang, Malone or Canton	78 00
Iron harrows, 3 sec. clip or nut	13 50
Seed drill, 14-hoe	75 00
Fish wagon	80 00
Mitchell Wagon	80 00
Chatham (Ont.)	75 00
	Canadian Make.
Massey-Harris steel binder	\$ 138 00
Massey-Harris mower	50 00
Massey-Harris horse rake	28 00
Sulky plow, 16-inch	50 00
Combination plow, 2-mold boards & 2 points	25 00
Cross or stubble plow from	\$15 to 20 00
Seed drill, 14-hoe	75 00
Seed drill, 12-hoe	65 00

Wagon, complete	70 00
Top buggies from	\$75 00 to 95 00
Binding twine	10c. per lb.

LUMBER.

Rough lumber, per M	\$ 18 05
2x4, 2x12, Dem., No. 1	22 00
2x4, 2x12, Dem., No. 2	21 00
Fir flooring	25 65
Fir and pine siding	25 65
6-inch shiplap	20 90
No. 1 B. C. cedar shingles, per M	3 10
No. 2 B. C. cedar shingles, per M	2 80
Tar paper (best)	1 00
White paper	75
Lath, per M	3 60
Cedar posts, 13 feet	25 1c.

In conclusion, we can say that there is such a chance offered to the right American farmer in Western Canada as is nowhere else to be found on the continent. If he does not take advantage of it he is blind to his own interests.

To our friends, and we represent several hundreds, we shall simply say upon our return: "In Western Canada is a land as rich in natural resources as these States; a well-governed country, in which you can find not only the fairest prospects of success, but in all probability the last chance of the American tenant farmer for land ownership and independence."

(Signed).

Frank Goetz, Clark, Clark County, So. Dakota.

Thomas Keyes, Mitchellville, Polk Co., Iowa.

W. H. Lacey, Mitchellville, Polk Co., Iowa.

Wetaskiwin, April 13, 1898.

W. V. Bennett, Esq., Omaha, Neb.

Dear Sir: When myself and Mr. Swoboda left Omaha I promised to write to you how I find everything up here. I expected to find a wild country, but, on the contrary, it is set-

tied by good industrious people. I must say that you did not misrepresent the country, but that it is even better than what you told me. I am sure a man could not get as good a homestead as I took up anywhere in the States any more now. Oats, wheat and potatoes beat anything I have ever seen.

Yours very truly,
(Signed)

Albert Miller,

Wetaskiwin, Alberta, N. W. T.

September 5th, 1898.

Dear Sir: We wish to make the following report for the benefit of intending settlers. We have visited the country north and west of Yorkton for over 60 miles, and found a country that cannot be surpassed for mixed farming. There are many streams of fresh water and the soil is excellent in every particular. The cattle around Yorkton could not be in better condition. We saw 2-year-old steers as good as some 3 years old raised in some places, and these and all others about Yorkton were fed on native hay in winter and herded in summer. In fact, after looking carefully over the land around that district, and noting conditions of crops in that district and consulting with people, we find as a whole a most desirable place for settlement. The advantages here offered consist of plenty of wood in the Beaver Hills and surrounding country. Brick and lime are both manufactured and sold cheap in Yorkton. We asked many about the winters, and they all say they don't mind them any more than we do in Iowa or Ontario. Any one, no matter what their tastes, may be suited here. All that is wanted here is more settlers.

(Signed).

Geo. Thompson, Boyden, Iowa.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF A. J. TUTTLE, CLEAR LAKE, IOWA.

I visited Alberta during the months of September and October of 1898, during the threshing season, and saw such grain and yields as were simply marvellous. As to climate,

all the States' people I saw say they had rather live there in the winter than in some of the more southern States on account of the winters being more even temperature and a much dryer atmosphere, a person not feeling the cold so much when the thermometer registers low as in a damper climate. As for the soil the yields of all kinds of small grains and vegetables speak for that, and, for the prospects, if I didn't think them pretty good would not leave the State of Iowa for Alberta, for we think the State of Iowa as good an agricultural state as there is in the Union.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

A. J. Tuttle.
Clear Lake, Iowa.

From a letter, dated 31st August, 1898 :—

One of the principal things that struck me in Western Canada, in the districts I visited, was the evenness of the soil. I drove for miles and miles and never saw a stone, nothing but rich black loam, and from 18 inches to 2 feet deep. In conclusion, I would say that I found that the reports sent out regarding the country were not exaggerated, and can recommend it as a country suitable for all kinds of farming and ranching. There are none but school taxes to pay, and that only where there are school districts.

I intend to return to my home in Iowa, and make arrangements to move to some portion of this country.

(Signed). David Brown.

Note.—Mr. Brown has since purchased a farm near Yorkton.

From a letter from two Ohio men, dated 4th Oct., 1898 :

We wish to add our testimony to that of others to the favorable conditions as regards the terms of settlement, soil and climate which await the immigrant into Western Canada. We are residents of Toledo, Ohio, and reached Winnipeg on the 23rd September last. Thence we took train southwestward to Alameda, spending three days in

examining that beautiful country. From thence we went to Brandon, and thence to Regina, where we spent two days before leaving for Prince Albert. The Alameda district we found to consist of rich rolling prairies—a country which is rapidly settling up to a very fine country indeed. Brandon is a thriving well-built substantial town in the midst of great wheat fields, with numerous elevators and at every station as well as east and west of it, showing what a train of grain business flows through these growing points of shipment.

At Regina the soil is still stronger, being a very heavy clay, and the crops here we found to be very remarkable, though owing to persistent wet weather, still in the stook. At Prince Albert, which we next visited, we found that cattle-raising is making great headway at present. Here mixed farming is the rule, and the settlers all seem to be doing well. As regards the whole country, all that we have seen of it was alike inviting and of excellent quality in soil and productions. We consider Western Canada the best country in the world for the poor man.

(Signed.)

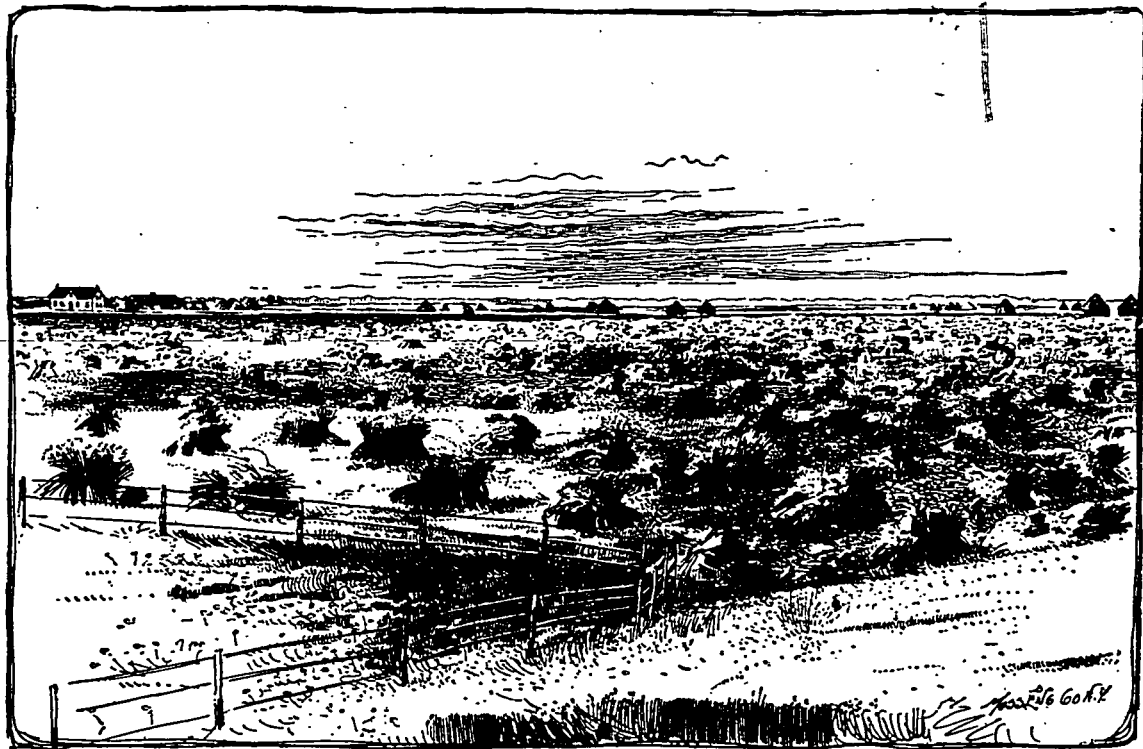
A. A. Kusz, Toledo, Ohio.
Wolter Tabiszah, Toledo, Ohio.

Two other Ohio delegates say of the Alameda district :—
The country is rather rolling, soil black loam, not too heavy. Still further north in the Moose Mountains there is a fine stock district.

We stayed at the house of Mr. I. Thomson, who has been sixteen years in this district. He came into the country a poor man, and to-day is well off. Vegetables seem to thrive especially well in this Province. There seems to be no insect of any kind to destroy or interfere with them.

On our return to Alameda we went to Estevan and took the Soo line north to Moose Jaw and saw some very fine country along the C. P. R. to Regina—a country that cannot be beaten for wheat raising and farming generally.

We had intended continuing our trip to Edmonton; and



READY FOR THE THRESHER.

possibly to Prince Albert, but all were quite satisfied with the Moose Mountain district, where we have decided to locate.
(Signed.)

M. C. Webster.
C. D. Walter.

(Formerly of North Fairfield, Huron Co., O.)

MISSOURI AND KANSAS DELEGATES.

Calgary, Alta., 23rd September, 1898.

J. S. Crawford, Esq.,
Canadian Government Agent,
Kansas City, Mo.

Sir: We, being members of the party which recently visited the Yorkton district and reported to you thereon, were desirous of visiting the country westward through Manitoba to Edmonton before returning to the States. We visited parts of the farming district around Brandon, as yet devoted mainly to wheat culture, and then went on to Virden, and examined a portion of the adjacent country, with which we were much struck as being typical of the great grain-producing region of Southern Manitoba. We dropped here two of our number for the purpose of examining the country to the south, where, we were informed, a great many cancelled pre-emptions are about to be thrown open for homestead entry, and, as we may make a closer inspection of this region ourselves hereafter we shall add nothing further here.

All along the line of railway to Edmonton we found a series of small, but neat, growing towns, evidently full of business, and with country back of them of a good character, where wheat and other grains have been grown for some years, and where cattle-raising is also rapidly increasing.

We saw a great deal of the Edmonton district, and particularly a country to the northwest known locally as the "Kansas Settlement," whose soil and other physical features are typical, we believe, of all Edmonton. For some miles from town the country is rather thickly wooded; but we passed, as well, numerous open prairies and many fine farms and buildings. Towards Carrot Creek, also, the land is more or less wooded;

but, beyond that it opens into a vast plain country, intersected by the river Que Barre. The soil is everywhere a rich, black vegetable loam, from one to two, and in some places even six feet in depth, resting upon clay. There is not, we believe, in any of our States a finer soil than this. The settlers are mainly French and Irish families from Kansas, and all spoke highly of their land and of their generally good crops. The drought of this year, however, seems to have specially affected this particular district, and has told upon the yield. The general average, nevertheless, is fair, wheat running to 25 and oats to about 40 bushels per acre. Last year as many as 50 bushels of wheat and 108 of oats were, in some parts, returned by this marvellous soil. Mr. Granger, from Kansas, was the first settler in Township 55, Range 27, has done well, and, judging by his generous dinner-table, lives in luxury. Mr. Cyr, another Kansas immigrant, came in with his family shortly afterwards, his belongings being three horses, a wagon, harness, and two plows. He has now 80 acres fenced and half broken, and would not sell out, he said, for \$1,500. Mr. Poirier, from Clay County, Kansas, had about \$1,000 in effects of all kinds when he came, and has now 90 acres under cultivation and rates his belongings at fully \$2,500. Such is the general condition, we believe, of the 25 or 30 French families, who farmed in Kansas for many years before coming here.

The Irish are in still better shape. We returned through their quarter, and spent some time at Mr. Ryan's farm, which is typical of the rest. He has some 700 acres, about one-third of which is uncultivated, and has had phenomenal returns in past seasons, and a fair one in this. He was plowing his summer-fallow with four-horse gang plows when we visited him, and the soil, fat, heavy and as black as ink, scoured perfectly. Mr. Ryan came here some years ago, and began farming, and threw it up, and returned to Kansas. But he soon came back, and his condition to-day is as we have shown. A batch of settlers came back with him, loading with their effects 19 cars in all, forming a special train, which left Washington Co., Kansas, and came clean through to Edmonton.

This seems to us a very sensible and economical way of moving into this country, and we commend it to intending emigrants from our States. Mr. Ryan's well is a sample of the way in which good water is found in this district. At from about 18 to 34 feet water is found everywhere which is not really unwholesome, but much of the country, at a certain depth, being impregnated with coal, it "tastes." By deep-sinking Mr. Ryan has secured an unfailing supply of excellent quality. One of the settlers now milks 11 cows, and is netting \$2 a day for cheese alone. Eight pounds of milk here make one pound of cheese. Sheep, pigs and poultry thrive, though, of course, they are not plentiful as yet, and horned cattle are mainly carried through on straw, requiring no shelter in winter save the stacks upon which they feed. Wild hay is not abundant, and this region is therefore more suitable for mixed farming than for the large stock raiser. Three-year-old steers, weighing about 1,200 lbs., bring about \$35, and other cattle in proportion, and horses winter out, and bring a fair price, as horses go now-a-days. Coal is near and abundant, and costs only a dollar a wagon load at the seams. In fact, the whole country is underlaid with it, so that the supply of fuel is practically inexhaustible. There is plenty of small timber, however, for rails and firewood when required. Wild berries of the usual kinds are plentiful, and vegetables and potatoes are of the best quality. Homestead lands are, of course, all taken up in the settled parts. The nearest are some seven miles beyond Mr. Granger's, towards Sandy Lake. In Township 57, Range 27, for example, no homesteads have yet been taken, though the land is just as good as it is elsewhere, and timber is abundant. Of course, railway lands (held at \$3.00 an acre) are to be had all over this region, and, with very liberal terms of payment, are desirable, through location or otherwise. Their purchase may be better than homesteading, if one prefers to live within existing settlements and to be nearer to market than he would be otherwise. The chief drawback of this region is, of course, its distance from Edmonton and its market. When projected railways are pushed on, this objection will disappear, and, with it, all that we can say against the country as a farming region. To

men with moderate means, say \$1,000, and who do not object to living for a few years in expectation of railways (which are certain to come) or amidst surroundings for the present of a primitive or uncongenial character, we can honestly and heartily recommend this region as one of the best we have ever seen. To others the nearer and settled parts of Manitoba will be more attractive on account of markets and those appliances of civilization which in our States have become customary. But it must be borne in mind that, where homesteads and railway lands are not to be had in Manitoba, the immigrant must purchase improved, or speculators' lands, at long figures, and we must also point out that the present occupants of Manitoba were themselves at one time, and not very long ago, either, remote from markets, and denied the institutions and appliances of civilization to a greater degree even than the present settlers north of Edmonton. It is not our intention to recommend one district over another. Our object is to describe accurately and fairly the superficial features and existing economies of such as we have seen. We have now examined a portion of the east and of the far western country north of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and we are convinced, not only from what we have beheld, but from all that we have heard, that there is no considerable area in Western Canada which cannot be turned to profitable account, or which is entirely unfit for settlement. All we can say, in conclusion, is that if intending emigrants from our States bring with them the energy, industry and respect for law and order, which everywhere prevail in Western Canada, they are, in our opinion, certain to succeed.

(Signed.)

William G. Findlay, Tuscumbia, Miller Co., Missouri.
Lincoln Nissley, Los Angeles, California.
H. W. Niles, Melvern, Kansas.

Alberta Hotel, Edmonton, Alberta,
September 13th, 1898.

Editor Herald, Burr Oak, Kansas.

Dear Sir: I came up here from Burr Oak, Kansas, U. S., to see this country, and I beg leave to submit the following:—

1st. I find the English a sociable and courteous class of people. They make their own laws here, about the same as we do in the States. A very mild climate in the summer, and, from the looks of the people, a very healthy one. I have been here about a week, and I saw but one sickly looking man since I crossed the line. Their soil is a rich black loam. Wheat, oats and barley are the staple products of the farm, and the large elevators are an index to both quality and quantity raised.

A fine grazing country. I saw nicer cattle and horses on the range than I saw any place this side of St. Paul, Minn. And sheep, I never saw the equal in any of our Western States.

They have about five hours longer daylight in the long summer days than we have, which gives them almost as much daylight in three months to grow a crop as we have in four.

Wood and coal in abundance; coal \$1.50 per ton.

All the tax the farmers have is school tax, which encourages education very much. They have Indian schools the same as we have.

The contented condition of the people shows the prosperity of the country, and at the present rate of immigration homestead entries will soon be a thing of the past. The nearest of any now to Edmonton is 16 miles. Railroad land around Edmonton can be had for \$4.00 per acre. The country is just new, and from the appearance, when its resources are fully developed, will make a very rich country. There are quite a good many of our people here from the States. Hotel accommodations are excellent at nominal rates.

With best wishes to all, I remain,

Yours respectfully,

(Signed).

H. E. Faidley.

J. S. Crawford, Esq., Can. Govt. Agent.
214 West Ninth St., Kansas City.

Sir: We, the undersigned, delegates from the States of Kansas, Nebraska and Michigan, were driven at Brandon to the Experimental Farm. The farm presented a beautiful appearance, with its evergreen trees and nicely ar-

ranged drive, and seeding was in operation. We were shewn the cattle, and saw some eight steers in prime condition for the English market. They are good grades; we never saw better in color, shape and style. They have been fattened on a small quantity of barley meal with cut straw, and we are persuaded that beef can be produced more cheaply in Western Canada than in the United States. We saw splendid varieties of Ayrshires, Holsteins, grades and crosses, making general purpose cattle both for milk and beef, and the specimens in each class are as good as we ever saw in the United States; a calf ten months old at 2,000 lbs., Shorthorn bull, 2,200, pure-bred Holstein, 2,240 lbs. The horses were in fine condition, native mares weighing 1,400 lbs., which clearly demonstrates the fact that horses can be raised at a good profit in Canada, as they sell at much higher prices than in the United States, and, like all other stock, are cheaply wintered.

We also saw some fine specimens of hogs—Chester White, Tamworth, Berkshire and Suffolk. Hog raising leaves a good profit to the farmer, as pork is a cent a pound higher here, live weight, than in our country.

We visited the large barn and saw a variety of grasses which yield $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 tons per acre. The exhibit room displays a wonderful range of production of grain in Western Canada. The wheat was clear like amber, and very hard; barley very good, yielding as high as 60 bushels to the acre. This we consider a good substitute for our corn, and a great fat-producer. Wheat being the staple production, it is turned into cash, and the coarser grain used to finish cattle. We saw oats six feet long, which yielded 97 bushels to the acre on the entire field of 31 acres, and weighed 41 lbs. to the bushel. We saw extra good samples of peas. The Bedford variety, grown and called after the Superintendent of the farm, from a cross of two varieties, was excellent. Samples of sweet corn in the cob were very choice, particularly the Squaw and Corey varieties. Our American corn yielded 45 tons to the acre, used for green fodder. Native hops hung in clusters, the production of Manitoba, that were equal to the best German hops.

The prices of all farm productions are better than in the United States, and we must admit unanimously that the exhibit was superior to anything we ever saw in any country. All varieties of trees and shrubs are doing well, and anyone settling can grow timber for use quickly. Ornamental shrubbery and hedges can be very successfully grown. We are more than pleased with the wonderful productiveness of Western Canada.

We visited the public schools, and they are very superior; the hospital, the jail and court house. All these institutions are up to date, efficiently managed, well equipped and faultlessly clean.

We visited the grist mill with 500 barrels capacity, the oatmeal mill in connection; the large saw mill, where twelve million feet of lumber will be cut this year from the logs brought a thousand miles down the river. This supply of timber in the Pelly district will supply eight millions of feet each year for the next twenty consecutive years, and 250 men are now engaged bringing the logs down the river. The prices of lumber is very reasonable; good lumber can be bought for \$14 per thousand; flooring and siding, \$15.50 per thousand; low grades from \$8 to \$10.

We then proceeded to Virden. Virden is a good town, permanent and progressive; six elevators, grist mill and has an excellent farming country around it, being fifty miles west of Brandon. We were driven north of the town, and found a great number of farmers busy seeding; the land in good condition and the soil rich, black loam; buildings good; good water and good wheat, weighing 62 lbs. to the bushel. We were very much pleased with this district. We visited the farm of John Wright, who threshed 9,000 bushels of wheat last year. Stock all in good condition.

We were driven south to Elm Valley and found a prosperous settlement, visiting Charles O'Neill and other farmers on our way. We were shown a flock of three hundred first-class sheep, 480 acres of good land, 265 acres of which are under cultivation; good buildings and good stock. Mr. O'Neill said that he came to Manitoba six years ago in debt.

We passed over a lot of very good country, but it seemed a little lighter than the land of Brandon. There is a great quantity of good land to purchase very cheap, but we think that anyone coming to settle in this district should have some means. We are well impressed with what we have seen, and the Board of Trade and citizens generally extended every courtesy and kindness to make our visit pleasant as well as extend the necessary information.

(Signed.)

Charles Ross, McCook, Neb.
T. A. Welk, Buhler, Kan.
J. D. Langlois, Hutchinson, Kan.
A. D. Welk, Buhler, Kan.
Peter Berg, Durham, Kan.
J. M. Bartel, Buhler, Kan.
N. M. Morgan, Bright, S. D.
Peter Morgan, Mellett, S. D.
Mathias Steffes, Redheld, S. D.

Prince Albert, Sask., 17th August, 1898.

J. S. Crawford, Canadian Government Agent,
214 West Ninth St., Kansas City.

Sir: At Dauphin, a town 18 months old, we got board and lodging quite as good as in our own States for about half the money. These liberal charges were not confined to Dauphin. We examined the principal cultivated areas in the southern parts of Township 25, Range 19 — the great wheat fields of Wishart, Buchanan, Owen, Smith, Ross, Sinclair, the Whitmores, Drinkwaters, etc., and subsequently, others to the north, and never in our experience, have we seen finer grain. The soil, a vegetable mold resting upon clay, is manifestly very fertile. There is no difficulty in clearing the land, if we can use such a term, the scrub being easily uprooted by three horses hitched to an ordinary brush plow. The whole country is watered by numerous streams flowing from the slopes of Riding Mountain, and excellent well water is found everywhere at from 9 to 18 feet. Extensive forests of spruce and tamarac cover the northern parts of the

mountain. Wild hops and wild fruit are abundant and ripen in the open air. Vegetation throughout is surprisingly luxuriant, and without hesitation, we would rank the whole region among the best grain-growing areas of the continent.

The school law in the Territories is of a liberal character. Ten children enable the parents to a school, 70 per cent. of the teacher's salary being paid out of the educational grant. In every settlement there are ample school facilities, the buildings being also used as churches and assembly rooms. Taxation is very light. Indeed, many of the settlers assured us that, so far, they had never been called upon for taxes at all. The roads are of nature's making, and are everywhere excellent, the bridges, etc., being built by grants of government money, which are fairly apportioned to each district.

(Signed.)

George S. Bennett, Hall's Summit, Kansas.
E. F. Brooks, Westphalia, Kansas.
S. W. Bennett, Hall's Summit, Kansas.
John Flannery, Stuart, Nebraska.

Winnipeg, Man., 15th September, 1898.

William F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Man.

Sir: Our principal object was to see the region contributory to Yorkton. We found the town overcrowded with immigrants, visitors and sportsmen. We visited the "creamery" in town—a highly important adjunct to the rapidly growing dairying interests of the region. The settlers have generally supplied themselves with English "hand separators," made under a Danish patent, costing from \$60 up, but several farmers now run their machines with small gasoline engines at a nominal expense. The output at the Yorkton creamery, which is ahead of anything known to us in our States, was, last year, 50,000 lbs. of first-class butter, which finds an immediate market, and the benefit of the institution in stimulating dairying is very great. One farmer's wife received in a single season over \$400 in cash for her cream.

Our first drive was to the Wallace district, east of Yorkton. For a few miles out the soil resembles that in the neighborhood of Winnipeg, as it does also to the north and south of the town, though lighter, since the plow scours readily. There is a good deal of homestead land available in this quarter, and to the south of the railway line. Railway lands are also to be had at an upset price of \$3 per acre. Besides these there are cancelled pre-emptions, and, here and there, occupiers who are willing to sell or rent improved lands with buildings at reasonable rates.

The "Beaver Hills" is a very good country, more rolling, of course, than elsewhere, with plentiful prairies, though abundantly timbered with aspen large enough for fuel and rails. In the main range of the hills, however, there is a dense forest some hundred miles in length and forty in breadth, where is much large poplar fit for sawing into lumber, and which will be a great boon to settlers in the future, if spared from fire. The soil, too, of the hills is excellent, and of the limy nature which characterizes so much of this country.

There are no finer vegetables than those grown in the well-kept gardens we saw along the White Sand river. Indian corn in the gardens looked well, and the-sugar beets were of the best quality, and give promise, perhaps, of a great future industry. At Ebenezer a large number of poor Germans settled some years ago, who are now in excellent shape, with good crops and large herds of cattle. There are Danes, too, and Orkneymen, who have colonized in other parts, and are doing well, and a good sprinkling of Americans. The chief employment is cattle raising, an industry which has increased in six years from 5,000 to 25,000 head, not to speak of sheep, which thrive wonderfully and are increasing fast. The cattle raised here are the very finest we have ever seen, and not less than 5,000 fat beasts will be carried out of this district by the railway this year. These are almost entirely three-year-olds, which, fed upon the prairie and upon prairie hay in winter, run up to 1,600 or 1,700 lbs. live weight. But the cattle are sent into as well as out of this region. They

are sent up in the fall from the south in poor condition to be wintered and fattened here—a significant fact. There are no very large herds in the region, farmers holding from 50 to 400 head. As the ranges become limited through homesteading, the cattle-raisers will go north, where, we are assured, there is a vast region with even better resources for stock-raising than we found here. Indeed, we ourselves saw a band of 700 magnificent fat cattle which had been driven down from the Prince Albert region, some 250 miles off, and which were intended for immediate shipment to England. Meanwhile, hay is in fair supply throughout the country generally, and many farmers, in addition to their own cattle, winter for others at \$5.50 a head. Grain growing is, of course, an increasing industry, and the time may come when cattle in the immediate district must be largely strawfed in winter.

Homesteading in the region described will go on as it has in our own States and grain-growing in time will limit the ranges of cattle, for the conditions of soil and climate fairly suit it. A fair herd of stock can be maintained on a limited pasture; dairying and poultry-raising can be developed to any extent, and good living and independence be reached by all who strive for them in this country. The amount of capital required is from \$500 to \$1,000. This is the conclusion we have reached after careful observation and enquiry, and we shall not hesitate to recommend the region to intending emigrants from our own States.

As regards rates of living, we have found the customary Canadian dollar-a-day hotel in this region furnishing as good meals, and, where not overcrowded, as good accommodation as can be found in our own States at the prices. Lumber is comparatively high-priced at Yorkton, owing to the absence of spruce forests in the region and the consequent long haul. Rough lumber sells at \$20 a thousand; but farm machinery and household supplies are reasonable in price, and taxes are so low as scarcely to be felt. School-houses throughout our trip came in sight wherever there were settlers' homes, and we found that schools were carried on where there were but

six children in attendance, although ten, we believe, are required to entitle a school to the full grant of 70 per cent. Good government is as perfectly preserved as in any other part of Canada.

(Signed.)

William G. Findlay,

Tuscumbia P. O., Miller Co., Missouri.

William M. Findlay,

Tuscumbia P. O., Miller Co., Missouri.

W. F. Birdsong,

Tuscumbia P. O., Miller Co., Missouri.

H. W. Miles, Melvern, Kansas.

John Church, Morville, Iowa.

Thomas Howie, Prescott, Iowa.

Editor News-Herald.

Please find space in your columns for a few items in answer to some questions about the Canadian Northwest. Our party left Kansas City, Mo., August 16th, and arrived in Winnipeg after forty hours' run. Winnipeg is a city of 40,000 inhabitants and has eleven railroads. Going west on the Canadian Pacific railroad the country is more rolling, and as far as Regina—356 miles—is a fine farming country, well improved, and at this time, the farmers being about half through harvesting, good crops of wheat, oats and barley were seen all along the line.

Going west, the country from Regina, the capital of the Northwest Territory, to Calgary, near the Rockies and 483 miles west of Regina, is strictly a ranching country. Large herds of cattle are seen and the land is leased from the government at two cents per acre for that purpose. Stopping off here, we drove out over the country, which is very rolling and produces a luxuriant pasture grass. The stock is fine and fat and is exported to the English market without being fed grain. They range all the year except in very severe storms, when they are fed hay.

Going 200 miles north from here across the Saskatchewan river we came to the town of Edmonton, north of which is a



REAPING WHEAT IN WESTERN CANADA.

fine grain country. Here we visited with my brother, D. Crozier, who left Olathe last spring to try his fortune in this country. He has a good crop and estimates it at 10,000 bushels, and is well pleased with the country so far. Returning through Southern Manitoba, we saw in some places light crops and in other places good crops, large barns and comfortable dwellings. Several towns through Manitoba had from five to eight elevators.

We went north on the Dauphin and Northwestern railroad, and in company with a party from Illinois stopped off at Dauphin, 120 miles north of Winnipeg. It is a fine grain country, with deep black soil. Threshing had just commenced and wheat was turning out 30 bushels to the acre and selling for about 50 cents per bushel. We proceeded to Swan River, 120 miles north of Dauphin, and in advance of the railroad now in progress to that place. We camped in a heavy-timbered country, part prairie and part timber. The soil is more sandy, but the well-matured samples of wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and garden vegetables show it to be very fertile. The first settler came in this spring; now 85,000 acres are taken and more being taken as fast as entries can be made. Moose and deer are plentiful. The railroad is expected here this fall. There was some frost on the 8th of September which cut the potatoes and garden vegetables too late, however, to do any injury, as the crops were fully matured.

Respectfully,

J. Crozier.

Winnipeg, November 15th, 1898.

From Kansas City we obtained our tickets through the instrumentality of Mr. Crawford, Government Agent.

We journeyed continually to Gretna, stopping over a few days in the neighborhood of Winkler, till the 5th of November. Left on the 5th of November for Winnipeg, and from there to Rosthern, arriving there late on the evening of the 6th, where tween the two rivers. We then went south and southwest from Rosthern to see over the country, and soon we

spent the time till the 12th, driving through the country in various directions to see the general features of the country. The impression we obtained was quite satisfactory, and in proof of this A. Duck and A. Kraker at once invested in a half section each. Still, the fine wheat that we inspected in the elevator at Rosthern was more than gratifying and proof of the country's capabilities.

Respectfully,

(Signed.)

Kornelius Hiebert.
B. Pauls.
D. Bartel.

Manhattan, Kansas, May 28th, 1898.

J. S. Crawford,

214 West Ninth St., Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir: Having just returned from Western Canada, I will simply state what I saw and found out from conversation with settlers. We took the Manitoba and Northwestern P. R. to Yorkton, a thriving town of over 350 inhabitants, situated in the Province of Assiniboia. We were driven all around the country, and, judging from the fine wheat and oats we saw at every place that was visited, the country is hard to beat. We were told that 30 and 40 bushels of wheat to the acre is what is considered the usual crop and oats yield all the way from 50 to 100 bushels per acre, and all that of the best quality, also heavy in weight. The cattle we saw, though only fed on oats, straw and hay, were in as good condition as cattle in this country that had been fed on corn. We were told that they sell steers off of grass that weigh from 1,400 to 1,600 lbs., and are sent to Montreal for the foreign trade. The land in appearance is similar to the western part of America, some portions being level prairie, others rolling, and others timber. There is plenty of water, timber for fuel and fencing, and within easy reach. It seems strange to me that people will stay where they have to give most all they raise for rent, when land can be taken in the Northwest as a Government claim, or can be bought at from

\$2. to \$3 an acre. We heard no complaints from the farmers as to hard times, as they all appeared to be doing well and had plenty of stock and grain on hand. From what I could learn I should judge that the Northwest is the place for a poor man to go, as with perseverance and work it will not be very long until he is well fixed and independent.

(Signed.)

Yours truly,
E. C. Jackson.

IN THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST.

Dickinson County Delegation Arrives Safely at Yorkton—
What They Think of the Country—Other
Items of Interest.

Several of Dickinson County's best citizens left Abilene on March 22 for Western Canada on a prospecting tour, and they write as follows what they think of the country:—

At the outset we endorse the statements made to us by the agents as to the resources of the Canadian West. We have seen grain in bulk, wheat, oats and barley, which are better than the samples shown to us in Kansas. We have seen stables a quarter of a mile from the house without any wire stretched between, which shows us that South Dakota blizzards are unknown in the Canadian Northwest, and the farmers here tell us they don't know what a blizzard is; horses winter on the prairie and turn out fat in the spring. We have seen abundant proof of this. Cattle are stabled or running in and out of open sheds, and those wintered in open sheds were in first-class condition. They are fed on straw and prairie hay; young stock sometimes on oat sheaves. Cattle are better here at this time of the year than in Kansas. We saw none poor or in thin condition, all good and thrifty, in fact, many fat enough for beef. Cattle here are larger than in Kansas. Water is easily obtained from wells or from holes cut in the ice of the creeks.

We saw between 5,000 and 6,000 bushels of oats in one

granary, and 7,000 bushels of wheat in another. One farmer started farming in the Northwest with a yoke of oxen, a cow, a plow, and a wife and family to keep. His house is of logs, with a stone dairy near; in his implement shed is a cream separator. On the same section a Mr. Snell threshed 19,000 bushels of oats two years ago. He bought 80 head of cattle to eat the straw, turned them out on the prairie when the snow was gone and sold them in the fall, clearing over \$1,000. The sum of taxes in 1897 on a half section, with the above mentioned cattle, fifteen horses, and all the rest of the personal property was \$18, not including road tax of one day's work of man and team for each quarter section. The land survey is the same here as in Kansas. School districts are five miles square and there must be twelve children of school age (5 to 16), and if there be an average attendance of six, 70 per cent. of the teacher's salary is paid by the government of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. H. Harris settled four miles south of Yorkton in 1839, originally from England, but had spent a few years in Ontario. He tells us he began farming here with a team of horses, one cow, harrow, a wife and two children. He bought a plow on time and began to work. He has now 58 head of cattle, ten horses, a very good farm and a very comfortable log house. We have seen enough to know that these cases are not exceptional. We believe that to a farmer 160 acres here is worth purposes. Yet in this district homesteads can be had free and good land can be bought for \$4 per acre within two miles of the town. South of the Saskatchewan, in the Northwest Territories, alone, is an area, roughly speaking, 500 miles by 250 miles, occupied by less than 100,000 people. Implements—binders about \$25 higher, gang plows cheaper, walking plows dearer, binding twine and barbed wire same price, or a little dearer. Heavy horses are worth half as much again here, cattle cheaper, and are sold fat off grass for export to England. Harness a trifle dearer, furniture about the same. The leading hotel in the town is lighted with acetylene gas and heated by hot air from a wood-burning furnace, for wood is the fuel here, both in town and country. A man may have

property and still remain a citizen of the United States. We have seen enough to believe Canada is a free country.

Mr. Kohl, late of Hefington, goes no further with us, as he has decided to locate near the German settlements, north of Yorkton. We go on to see other parts of the Territories, but expect to return to this district.

(Signed.)

Samuel Bricker.
Lionel E. Fife.
J. D. Haffner.
C. D. Hatcher.
W. E. Jackson.
W. M. Hill.
C. W. Cooper.
R. J. Lank.
Herman Gartner.
Charles Köhl.
T. J. Wilson.

Rich Hill, Mo., Sept. 14, 1899.

J. S. Crawford,

214 West Ninth St., Kansas City, Mo.

Sir: Having been appointed delegate for a number of people in Bates County, Mo., to examine the different Provinces of Western Canada, I left Kansas City, Mo., August 15th, with 26 delegates. We arrived in Winnipeg, Man., August 17th, 4 p.m. I now wish to make a report, not only for my people, but for the good of all who desire to make a change to better their condition.

I have during my life visited a large majority of the cities of the American continent, and I never have seen a more beautiful, clean, orderly city than Winnipeg. Although a city of 50,000 I did not see a beggar or tramp in the town. Its fine substantial brick and stone buildings, clean broad streets and boulevards and lovely parks were a revelation to many of us from the south. It has a fine hospital, and many schools and colleges.

On the evening of August 18th we left Winnipeg for Port-

age la Prairie, via Canadian Northern Railway. After a two hours' run over a very level prairie, we arrived in that little city of about 5,000 inhabitants. Here we took our first drive through the country.

Let me say here that Canada has a most excellent method of keeping up the public roads; therefore, wherever there is settlement there are good roads. Around Portage is a quite old settled farming country, therefore our drive was over well kept roads, past beautiful farm residences, and mile after mile of beautiful golden grain stretched away into the distance, till earth and sky blended in the misty rim of the horizon.

After a few hours' drive through this section, we returned, thoroughly convinced that farming must pay in Manitoba.

The next point we were to visit was Dauphin, 120 miles north of Portage la Prairie. Arrived at that place at 5 o'clock, August 19th. This is quite a new country, situated in Western Manitoba, near Lake Dauphin. The lake is on the east, with the Riding Mountains on the west, while the town is in about the centre of what is known as the Dauphin district. This is a very level country, covered in places with quite a growth of poplar and willow. Wild fruits are abundant, such as plums, high-bush cranberries, raspberries, grapes, huckleberries, etc. Here and there are quite large stretches of prairie, giving the country a beautiful park-like appearance. The prairie is covered with a luxuriant growth of grass of the most excellent quality, while at its roots are an abundance of strawberry vines, giving evidence of large yields of this most delicious fruit. The soil is a rich black loam. Where under cultivation we saw the most wonderful growth of grain, far surpassing anything we had ever before in our lives beheld. It is estimated by men of experience here that many of the fields of wheat which we saw will yield from 45 to 50 bushels per acre, and oats from 75 to 100, and we consider these estimates are moderate and reasonable.

There is in this section yet a considerable quantity of C. P. R. land for sale, which can be purchased for from \$3.00 to \$8.00 per acre, according to location. Improved land that

is for sale at any price is very scarce, as the people here are all contented and prosperous and do not wish to sell.

Mr. Tom Whitmore, clerk of the Court, told me that during the whole history of this country not one land owner was ever sued, and there was never a judgment rendered in this district.

Dauphin is a town of 900 inhabitants; has five elevators, with a capacity of 30,000 bushels each, or a combined capacity of 150,000 bushels. This is a silent voucher for the productiveness of this country.

As we Sundayed in this town we attended the Methodist Church. This denomination has a most beautiful church edifice, built after the most modern plans, with elevated floor seated in a half circle, nicely done off in hard wood and oil. We listened to a sermon far above the average for a town of this size in an old country. As to appearance of the congregation; they are equal in intelligence to any town of same size in any country. The denominations represented here are Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Episcopalian, and have fine church buildings.

From Dauphin we returned to Gladstone on August 21st, some 85 miles south. The country here has less timber and more prairie; there is more hay for stock here. This town has about 300 inhabitants. It has a fine creamery—the cream from about 400 cows is brought. Butter wholesale was worth at this date 16 to 18 cents. We visited a large flouring mill of 200 bbls. capacity. The wheat mostly used here is No. 1 Northern Hard, which makes 1 bbl. of flour from 4 bushels and 20 lbs. wheat. Manitoba wheat makes 80 per cent. patent flour. Patent high grade is worth \$1.90 per cwt.; straight grade, \$1.80; strong bakers, \$1.70; bran, \$7.00 per ton; shorts, \$9.00. White poplar wood here is worth \$1.65 per cord, which I am told by the fireman at the mill makes a very hot lasting fire.

Agricultural implements are worth at this point the following prices:—

14-inch stubble plough	\$16 00
16-inch stubble plow	18 00

Breaking plows	18 00
Brush plows with two points	25 00
3-Section harrow	13 00
Farm wagons	67 50
Road wagons	60 00
Mowing machine	50 00
Harvester (Deering)	145 00
Harvester (Massey-Harris)	135 00

Land is worth here from \$4.00 to \$20.00 per acre, according to improvements.

From Gladstone we went to Neepawa, on the Manitoba & North-Western Railway. This is a beautiful, thriving little town of 1,500 people. Through the courtesy of the citizens of this town we were driven over this lovely farming district. We were all surprised to find so much attention given to the public roads in such a comparatively new country. We drove many miles over finely graded and gravelled roads. Neepawa has elevator capacity for 250,000 bushels, and they handle annually about 1,000,000 bushels of wheat. Land here is worth from \$20.00 to \$40.00 per acre. The tax on each quarter-section is from \$9.00 to \$12.00, as improvements are not taxed. The tax on each quarter is quite uniform, being assessed according to its value as wild land.

From here we went some 75 miles farther west to Birtle. This picturesque little town is situated in valley of Birdtail River, in the midst of a fine rolling prairie country, which is dotted here and there with beautiful little groves of timber. There is considerable attention given to cattle-raising, and we saw a number of nice herds of fat cattle fit for market, which were fattened on the rich grasses of this region, as no grain is ever fed to cattle in this country.

While driving over this country we visited the farm of Mr. J. B. Cartmell. Mr. Cartmell is one of the energetic thorough-going farmers of this country. Everything about his farm showed evidence of energy and thrift, and this farm is a fine specimen of what can be done in this country. Here we saw one of the finest stock barns we had yet seen, built of granite rock, and thoroughly equipped with machin-

ery to render the caring for a large number of cattle easy.

Birtle is a very pretty little town of 500 inhabitants. Has a saw and planing mill, which furnishes abundance of native spruce lumber at \$10.00 to \$15.00 per M. There is a fine creamery also at this point, which puts out 450 lbs. of butter daily. A Government Indian School is located here. This is a fine large structure, built of gray granite rock, to which is being a large wing added. Its capacity is 100 pupils, but at present it has only 42 Sioux, Chippewa and Cree children. A number of fine large business houses are being built here, and in every way this seems to be a very thrifty, prosperous country. Land is worth here \$3.00 to \$5.00, and is of the finest quality. It belongs to the C.P.R. mostly.

On August 24th we drove 40 miles across a beautiful rolling prairie country to Hamiota, situated on the Great North-west Central Ry. This town has 400 inhabitants; has six elevators with a combined capacity of 210,000 bushels. In our drive over this country, the main point of interest was the farm of Mr. George Rankin, seven miles south of the town. He has a large, roomy, gray granite residence, which stands in the midst of a lovely grove of maples. His stock barn is a marvel of convenience, 100x68 ft., built of granite. He has a feed mill, hay cutter and pump for his stock run by a large windmill. He has some fine specimens of stock, cattle, horses and hogs, the very best grade. Everything gives proof that Mr. Rankin does nothing by halves. He came into the wild prairie on this farm 16 years ago, and did not have a penny to go on, but by the aid of the richest of soils in a sure crop country, Mr. and Mrs. Rankin have worked their way to a competency.

Rapid City, a little town of 500, situated on Little Saskatchewan River, was our next point to visit. The country surrounding this town is quite similar to what we saw around Birtle and Hamiota—tilled ground yielding the most luxuriant growth of grain.

On August 26th we drove from this town to Brandon, 22 miles south on the main line of the C.P.R. This is a thriving city of 7,000 population, full of thrift and enterprise.

The Government Experimental Farm is located here. We made but a short call at the farm, but saw many things of interest. At this station it is conceded the best hay that can be raised is Brome grass; it is considered better than timothy, and yields from 3½ to 4½ tons per acre. Rye grass is next to this in quality. Peas are considered here a very paying crop; they yield well, and in fattening qualities are better than corn for hogs. Poultry and hogs do well, and pay well in Manitoba.

The wheat crop of Manitoba last year was 62,000,000 bushels.

On August 26th we went to Indian Head, in the Province of Assiniboia, 182 miles west of Brandon on the C.P.R. Here the Experimental Farm for the North West Territory is situated. This place has, according to careful investigation, more hours of sunshine in a year than any other place in the world. Although this is a fact, there is sufficient moisture to raise some of the finest crops of wheat, oats and barley. We visited one wheat field of 600 acres, that would average 40 bushels. The Government Farm is one of the most beautiful places we visited, and fully demonstrates to the visitor the wonderful things that can be accomplished by careful farming in Assiniboia. Indian Head is a beautiful little city of 1,500 people, built mostly of limestone.

Our next point to stop was Duck Lake, in the Prince Albert district, Province of Saskatchewan. Here we found the same beautiful and park-like country, with the richest, blackest soil. We drove over the country as far west as Saskatchewan River, found both homestead and railway land in abundance, plenty of timber for building purposes and fuel, a luxuriant growth of the best quality of grass, and plenty of good water makes this a perfect country. Duck Lake is a village of 300 people. Has an Indian school of 100 pupils.

August 31st returned 211 miles south to Regina, capital of the great North West Territories, situated in the Province of Assiniboia. It is a prosperous city of 2,000 people. The country surrounding it is a high rolling prairie, well watered and perfectly adapted to stock, and this industry is receiving

a considerable attention, and proves very satisfactory. Grain raising is also receiving considerable attention, and the crops in this section prove that the faith of the people in this country is well founded. In a ride of 30 or 40 miles over the prairie, we did not see one crop that could be called a poor one out of hundreds of acres under cultivation. One point of interest here is the flowing well, some seven miles south of the town, at the depth of 35 feet. A vein of water was struck that produces a continual stream to the surface, two inches in diameter, clear as crystal and ice-cold.

Our next stop was some 600 miles west on the Edmonton Branch of the C.P.R., at Lacombe, in the Province of Alberta, near the foot of the Rocky Mountains. Here we spent several days in driving over the country. This is, indeed, the home-seekers' paradise. For miles and miles, stretching away in every direction, we find the wooded, slightly rolling country covered with willow, poplar, spruce or tamarac. A thick growth of saskatoon and raspberries yield an abundance of fruit; then, breaking away from this, will be broad prairies, covered with the richest growth of grass. Here and there we crossed beautiful brooks and creeks of sparkling spring water, and occasionally glittering in the sunlight would be seen a small lake, sometimes but a few acres in size, just the thing for the cattle we saw feeding on its banks, fat and large.

The most and least I can say for this country is, it has everything required to make one of the most perfect farming countries I ever saw.

Lacombe is a bright, beautiful little village, with an intelligent, energetic population, and we confidently expect in the near future a rapid increase in its population, and that it may assume the dignity of a city.

Edmonton, our last point to visit, situated on the North Branch of the Saskatchewan in Northern Alberta, was reached on the 4th of September. This is a prosperous, growing little city of 3,500, substantially built of brick and stone; has fine schools and a large General Hospital. Here, like all of Alberta, coal is found in great abundance. It can be

bought at the mine for \$1.00 per load, or \$2.00 delivered in town. Gold is found in the sand bars of the river in sufficient quantities, so dredges are at work continually removing it. Wood is abundant and cheap. The surrounding country is quite similar to other points described above.

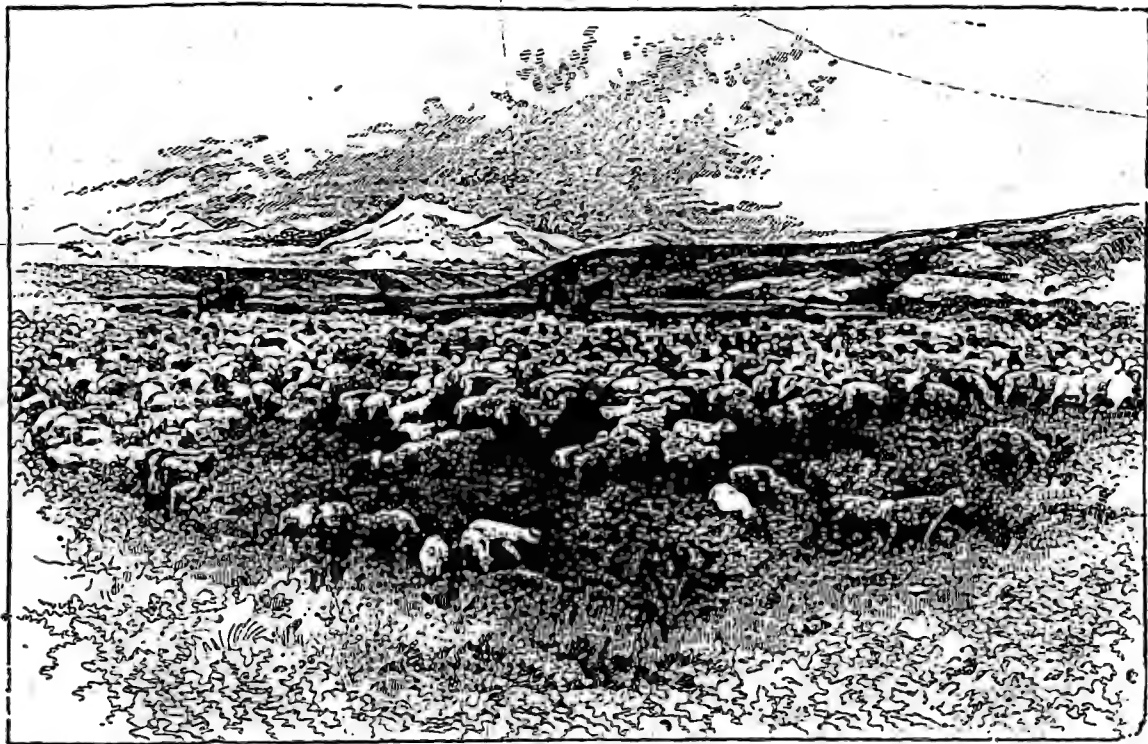
In conclusion, will say if the thousands of renters in the States, giving all the profits to the landlords, knew the truth about the Provinces of Western Canada, they would avail themselves of the splendid opportunities now offered by the Canadian Government, and get them a home of their own in a country where more wheat or oats can be raised off one acre than can be raised in Missouri, Kansas or Nebraska, off three, in fact, off any other State in the Union.

Respectfully,

(Signed) L. L. Ames.

WISCONSIN FARMERS LEAVE FOR WESTERN CANADA.

This morning's Central passenger train carried away a number of good people from this city and county, whose destination is South Edmonton, Alberta County, N. W. T., and they go there with the intention of making that their permanent home. The party consisted of Fred. Weiser, wife and two children; Ed. Durand, wife and two children, and Mrs. Arthur Durand and four children, of this city; C. B. Fountaine, wife and two children, and Alfonsa and A. Fountaine, of Junction City. Arthur Durand and others from the city and county left for Edmonton about three weeks ago, going out for the purpose of looking over the country with a view of taking up land, in response to inducements held out by T. O. Currie, the Canadian representative here. All seem well pleased with the country and its climate; and Arthur sent for his family and friends to come at once. He writes that cattle are able to get their own living the year round, need little if any shelter, and grow fat even in the winter. He had been at work in the paper mills here for the past few years, impairing his health to some degree, and he believes the pure air



SHEEP RANCHING IN WESTERN CANADA.

of Western Canada will give him new life. The friends of these people, while regretting their departure, trust they may find their new home a pleasant one.—Stevens' Point (Wis.) Gazette.

EXTRACT FROM A REPORT, DATED WINNIPEG,
4th OCTOBER, 1898.

To show what an energetic man can do in Western Canada, we may mention that we found one such at Hartney who had rented a farm on shares, receiving two-thirds of the returns as his share of the crop. When he came to sell his own produce he found that his two-thirds, when converted into cash, was enough to buy the farm he rented out and out, which he accordingly did, and is now its owner. It is our intention to induce as many of our friends as possible, who are practical farmers, to remove from Iowa to this country, where we believe there is a better future for the industrious man than is now to be found anywhere on this continent. We are all well-known in our part of the State of Iowa, and we invite correspondence from its residents in all parts with regard to the region of Western Canada which we have visited, and to which we intend to return.

(Signed.)

W. R. Milburn,
John Holmes,
M. R. Dagger,
E. L. Stetson,

Alfa P. O., Buena Vista County, Iowa.

WHAT MINNESOTA THINKS OF WESTERN
CANADA.

Barnesville, Minn., April 12th, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I have just returned from Alberta, and examined the land particularly along Battle river. In Alberta, about forty miles south of Edmonton, I found land that I believe to be as good as any land that ever lay out doors. The soil is a

dark loam and very heavy and rich. It is well watered. Water can be obtained at a depth of from 12 to 40 feet below the surface. The water is very soft, nearly as soft as rain-water. The land is very slightly rolling, just enough to give it good drainage. It is strictly prairie land, but there is plenty of timber there on each farm. It is possible to break up a farm of twenty or thirty acres without interfering with the timber land; it is very easy to clear the larger part of each farm, leaving enough timber for family use. This country is in no sense a timber country. It is, strictly speaking, prairie land, with here and there a small bunch of timber. The river is full of fish, and game has its home there. There are plenty of railroad facilities, and as soon as the country is settled up, schools and churches will be built. There is any quantity of land near Battle River that can be taken for homesteads. Last year one of my friends harvested 48 bushels of wheat per acre, for which he received 85c. per bushel. While I was up there he sold three head of cattle for \$92.00. I consider this is the best farming land that I have ever seen, and it cannot be surpassed for grazing purposes. There is plenty of rain during the season to water the crops. I have taken up a homestead, and several of my friends are expecting to take up homesteads there also.

(Signed.)

Ernest Frankhamel,
Barnesville, Minn.

Residing on Sec. 22, Town of Atherton, Wilkin Co., Minn.

Parker's Prairie, Minn., April 25th, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: My first stop of any account, in going into the country, was at Red Deer, Alberta. I found there a thriving little village, with good surrounding country, for either farming or stock ranching.

Farmers here seemed to be doing well. I called on several. A Mr. R. McDuffie, of this place (Red Deer), informed me that ten years ago he arrived from the east with \$300 (with wife and little daughter), and now would not take \$3,000 for

his farm, having also a little in the bank. Red Deer seemed to be quite a favorite spot, as many new people were coming in every day. I might say from here, south as far as the railway runs, to Edmonton, the country is of a similar nature. Good soil, plenty of hay, water and fuel. At and about Edmonton coal is delivered at from 75c. to \$2.00 per ton, it being all through the ground, many farmers having a coal mine within a few rods of the house. The timber is soft wood. This, it seems to me, ought to make the Alberta district a coming country, with the gold fields of the Kootenay on the south and Peace River and Alaska on the north, giving an open market for all that can be raised at your very door.

I am, Yours very truly,
(Signed.) E. P. Nelson.

YORKTON SUITED HIM ADMIRABLY.

St. Paul, Minn., April 14th, 1898.

Mr. Davies, 154 1/2 East Third St., St. Paul.

Dear Sir: I am just home from the N. W., and am more than pleased with my trip. We did not go as far as Edmonton. I found, by making enquiries at Winnipeg, that it was not possible to get land at Edmonton nearer than 30 miles, all land suitable for mixed farming within that radius being taken up. This made us change our plans.

We then went to Yorkton, and so far as we are concerned, there is no use in going any further. We found land admirably suited for mixed farming. All the farmers that we visited are well satisfied, and have cause to be so.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed.) Thomas Kirkland

B. Davies, 154 1/2 East Third St., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I have just returned from a trip looking after homestead lands in and about the Dauphin district, Manitoba, and I am frank to say that those in Manitoba I find far superior to those in the United States. I believe that any person desiring homestead lands could do no better than to

settle in Manitoba. I can also recommend in particular the lands in the Swan River country as exceptionally fine agricultural lands, and it will certainly pay any home-seeker to examine those lands.

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed.) D. B. McDonald.

Winnipeg, April 12th, 1898.

Mr. W. F. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration.

Dear Sir: Land suitable for mixed farming being our principal object of search, I feel in duty-bound to give you a brief account of our trip and the result of our investigation.

We arrived at Winnipeg on the 31st, and then decided to look over the Yorkton district first. I found what I was looking for, and am now on my way home to ship my effects to my new found home. The farmers in the Yorkton district are, as a whole, in very comfortable circumstances, and have become so in most cases in nine years or less, which speaks volumes.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed.) Thomas Kirkland.

Winnipeg, Man., 21st May, 1898.

Benj. Davies, Dom. Govt. Agent,
154 1/2 East Third St., St. Paul.

I have visited this country as a delegate from residents of Holingsford, Stearns Co., Minnesota, and have just returned from a visit to the Edmonton and Wetaskiwin districts.

I found all the representations made to me by the Canadian agents fully warranted by the conditions of the country.

No better land can be found anywhere than east of Wetaskiwin, near Beaver Lake. It is a black loam, with clay sub-soil, no gravel or stones. Hay is in abundance, and clumps of poplar give the country a park-like appearance. The water is of fine quality and got at from 10 to 40 feet. The settlers, many of whom came in poor, are now prosperous and contented, and very willing to assist newcomers.

Good homestead lands can be got in this district 21 miles

east of Wetaskiwin. There is a fine Government creamery at that town, which is a great advantage to the settlers.

There is no personal tax of any kind, and only a small road tax of one day's work and \$2 in cash and a school tax of about \$1.25. I can fully recommend this district for any who are seeking homes for themselves in Canada.

(Signed.)

A. C. Barrett.

St. Paul, Minn., May 21st, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, 154 1/2 East Third St., St. Paul, Minn.

I find Alberta is a great country. I made my first stop at Red Deer and made the acquaintance of a farmer of the name of Crookshank, and stayed at his place. He is a straight, sensible, shrewd old Scotchman, and when we were taking a smoke, and having a talk together, the night before I left, I asked his opinion of the country. "Well," he said, "I will give you what I have made of it myself. You have been around and seen that I am fixed up on an average with my neighbors. I am fifty-eight years of age, and came to this country five years ago with nothing but a wife and some children, and have made more in these five years than I did all the rest of my life put together. I have half a section of fat Alberta land, with 90 acres of it broken. I have 20 cows, 10 on the ranch and 10 for the dairy, with some young stock. I have 25 head of horses, 5 for work and the rest on the ranch. The most of them are 3 years old, and I could get from \$50 to \$75 for each. You saw the two harvesters, the drills and other tools that are about, and they are clear, and but one payment to make on the land."

"What about these early frosts?" I asked.

"We had a bad frost the second year after I came, but we have never been troubled since, and we don't think much of that now."

I then asked him about the market, and what he received for his wheat in Red Deer last fall.

"I see by the paper that we got as much for our butter as they did in Iowa, and if you consider the price of land there and here, you can see what that means. This is

the way to put it." And certainly he had reasons to be satisfied with himself.

People riding through the country on the cars, and seeing the little log houses and straw sheds, are very apt to mistake the condition and circumstances of the settlers in a new country. They were all poor men when they went on to the land, and had to do with these little log houses and sheds, and are quite right to stick to them until they are able to put up better, and that is what they are beginning to think of now. I listened to a very interesting discussion between Mr. Crookshank and his neighbor on the comparative merits of lumber and brick as the material for their next houses, and with brick at Red Deer at \$6.00 a 1,000, and lumber at \$12 and \$15 a 1,000 feet, I think brick had the best of it.

Yours very truly,

(Signed.)

John Stewart,
Box 87, Wadena, Minn.

Yorkton, Assa, June 5, 1898.

Sir: We arrived about a week ago, and travelled around visiting the districts containing the Government lands, and find it fully as represented. There is the finest kind of land in this district for farming or ranching that can be found anywhere. There is considerable timber for building, firing and fencing. The water cannot be beaten anywhere. There is very fine cattle here, of the Shorthorn type, which will be shortly fit to ship. The farmers have about just got through sowing the last of their oats, which appears to us to be rather late, but will come an excellent crop. The people here are not stuck up; they are very friendly. We visited Lake Sheho, which is a fine place for stock farming. We are sorry we did not know of it a good many years ago, for we have fooled our time away in the woods of Northern Minnesota. This is considerable of a rising town, built up in a substantial way with good stone foundations. We intend taking up homesteads here, while Mr. McKinley says, if he had the old woman here he would never go back to Northern Minnesota. Farm machinery, wagons, and horses are the same as in Min-

nesota. There are enough farms here for all the boys in Minnesota.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed.)

A. Starr,
A. C. Coulter,
Of New York Mills, Minnesota, U. S. A.

Winnipeg, 7th June, 1898.

J. H. M. Parker, Palladin Building, Duluth.

I visited the district northeast of Edmonton, near Fort Saskatchewan, and found the land first-class, rich soil. Plenty of wood, coal and water.

I see no reason why any man engaging here in mixed farming should not do well. The yield of grain there last year was very large—about 40 to 50 bushels of wheat and 100 to 110 bushels of oats to the acre.

The stock is splendid, and I think it is as good a country as can be for stock raising. One man told me he sold twelve head of 3-year-old steers for \$47.50 a piece.

I then visited the Dried Meat district, southeast of Wetaskiwin, and found this just as good a country, and the settlers are prosperous and happy and most obliging in giving information and assistance to immigrants.

I have decided to secure a farm in this country as soon as I can, for I did not meet a single farmer who was not content and prospering. Most of these same men went in there with very little.

I have visited the Swan River district, 113 miles beyond Dauphin, and find it a large area of well-timbered, well-watered country. Plenty of hay can be got, and the district is well adapted for mixed farming.

The soil is good and sharp, about 18 inches deep. On some of the ridges the soil is somewhat sandy and easy to be worked. Wild hops and wild peas grow in abundance. From five to ten teams are going in every day and the country is settling up fast.

I am much pleased with the district and intend to make it

my home, and will bring in over 30 friends to settle with me.
(Signed.)

F. M. Ford,
Cloquet, Minnesota.

Winnipeg, Man., 8th December, 1898.

B. Davies, Canadian Government Agent,

154 1/2 East Third St., St. Paul, Minn.

Sir: We left here on the 25th of last month for the Edmonton country, to report upon it to our friends. We visited St. Albert and the settlements adjacent to it. We met a number of farmers there, some of them from our own region in Minnesota, and had an excellent opportunity of examining the farms of men who have already established themselves in comfortable homes. In all our experience we have never seen a country to equal the Edmonton region, nor any country where the conveniences of life are so close together, with a climate milder than Minnesota and more equable. Without exception, the farmers we met were doing well, and were well satisfied. Fuel, in the shape of wood and coal, is plentiful; good water is found throughout, and the soil beats anything we ever beheld. The markets, too, owing to the nearness of the country to the mining regions, are excellent. We saw hogs, live weight, sold at \$4.50 per 100 lbs., and butter at 20c. a lb. Oats were bringing 25c. a bushel, and 3-year-old steers as high as \$44. The prices could not be obtained in our own country in Minnesota to-day. We also examined the district around Fort Saskatchewan, and liked it well. In fact, the whole country is first-class in every respect. We were so satisfied that one of our number bought a farm before leaving, and will return to it in the spring. Another rented a farm and will go back to it next month. We are all returning, and will make known to our friends before leaving Minnesota, the richness and resources of the Edmonton country.

(Signed.)

John Molowney, Chokio, Stevens Co., Minnesota.
E. L. Boaldwin, Chokio, Stevens Co., Minnesota.
Olaf Weelsin, Donnelly, Stevens Co., Minnesota.

South Stillwater, Minn., Aug. 5th, 1898.
Benjamin Davies, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: The following is a short report of our travels in the Canadian Northwest and what we have seen.

At Alameda we were driven through the Moose Mountain district, where we interviewed a number of farmers, and without exception their assurance was that it was the right place to settle. Their crops looked well and their stock cannot be beaten, and they are a fine industrious class of people, every one contented and happy, and there are some advantages there not always to be met with on the prairie—good water, coal being cheap and plentiful, wood to be had for the hauling and good water by digging from 12 to 20 feet. So, taking all things into consideration, we decided with our choice and left the open prairie lands for those who are harder to please.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed.)

Alex. Cameron.

Edmonton, Alberta., Nov. 25th. 1898.

We, the undersigned, delegates from Barnesville, Clay Co., Minn., desiring to give our honest opinion concerning the country, we will say we are pleased. It is far ahead of what we expected. We find the climate to be warmer than we expected. As for the crops, we have never seen anything that can compete with them. We have lived in Minnesota, and have farmed some of what they count the best land in the Red River Valley, for ten years, and have done very well in that part of the country and have farms there at present clear of all encumbrance, but believe this country is so much better that we have bought from the C. P. R. one section of land northeast of Edmonton in the Beaver Hill district. We have travelled through that part of the country and have seen the grain in the granaries and the amount of land it was taken off, and find that they have grown so much as 50 bushels and over to the acre, and they say that this has not been a good year, and very little, if any, of the grain has been touched by frost. Hay seems to be plentiful, and if you wish to put up

a log building you can get the logs within a few miles. Coal at the mines for 75 cents per ton, or you can dig it yourself. Nearly all kinds of garden truck can be grown in abundance. We find everything that can be grown to be in good demand. The farmers tell us they can get four and a half, live weight, per hundred for hogs, and 3-year-old steers from \$50 to \$60 per head, providing they are good.

We will move into this part of the country next summer. All the people in this part of the country seem to be satisfied, and we do not see any reason why they should not be so. Any one wishing to refer to us will get an answer by addressing C. E. Hughes, or A. Hughes, Barnesville, Clay County, Minn., any time between this and the first of June.

(Signed.)

C. E. Hughes,
A. Hughes.

Stanton, Goodhue County, Minn.,

November 22nd, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: After leaving Winnipeg, which is a beautiful city of 40,000 or 50,000, we went to Regina, which is a thriving town of 3,000. Here we talked with a number of farmers who have lived there for a number of years and are perfectly satisfied with their choice and are doing well. Here we saw cattle which had never had anything but grass, and were what we consider good stock.

Calgary, our next stop, is a fine city, with magnificent brown stone buildings, the stone coming from quarries near the city. This place being headquarters for one of the finest ranching districts in the world, here we had the pleasure of seeing a herd of the finest cattle we have ever seen, which were brought in for shipment east. After looking into things generally in the interest of ranching, we went 200 miles north to Edmonton, which is in the finest mixed farming district in the world. Edmonton has five or six commission merchants, who do a great business exporting produce to the

Crow's Nest Pass and the Kootenay mines, where they bring a high price, giving the farmers an excellent market for all they raise. We drove from Edmonton to the Clover Bar district, where we found all farmers prosperous. Here we remained over night with Mr. A. Simons, who came here five years ago without a dollar, and to-day he has a fine farm he refuses \$3,000 for, and says any man who is willing to work can do well here. Then we went to Beaver Lake and stopped with Mr. A. W. Hunt, who came here from Nebraska six years ago and has done so well that he could not be induced to leave the country. Here we met Mr. Neil, also of Nebraska, who has been in the country three years, and claims there is no place for the farmer like Western Canada. We were informed that good 2-year-old steers sold from \$25 to \$30, and found that the markets here for everything a farmer has to sell are as good, if not better, than in Minnesota. The wheat and oat yield here is something enormous. From Leduc we drove 15 miles to Conjurant Creek, where we both to homesteads, which we think are unsurpassed anywhere, there being an abundance of timber, coal, good water, and A 1 land. Coal is delivered in the towns here at from \$2 to \$2.50 a ton, lots of farmers having a mine on their premises. All over the country, wherever there are children, schools can be found, which, of course, are free, and as for churches, all Christian denominations are represented and hold services.

We have no hesitation in recommending this country to any person who wishes to secure a home for themselves and families, as any young man 18 years of age can secure 160 acres of as good land as he can wish for free, where markets are convenient, and any person willing to work cannot help but prosper.

L. P. Emery,
F. D. Bullock.

Delegates from Goodhue County, Minnesota.

Dauphin, Manitoba, December 6th, 1898.

Dear Sir: Manitoba as a farming country is good as far as I have seen. Since my arrival at Dauphin on September 25th,

1898, have seen as fine a grain and root crop as I ever saw. Wheat has went 25 to 53 bushels per acre. In the Dauphin district I have seen as fine potatoes as I ever saw anywhere, and sound potatoes of good flavor; having not asked what the yield was of anybody, I would not hesitate at putting the yield at 100 to 350 bushels per acre. Oats are a good crop; barley is a good crop, and all the old settlers say all are successful farmers are what I can say as far as I have been successful. There is plenty of wood; they can get a permit from the Government for 25 cents. Nearly all land here and in the Swan River district will have to be cleared of willow. It is not open prairie here, although there are some places, such as meadows, that are all clear, except of grass. That is where people get hay. On my way to the Swan River Valley I crossed 24 creeks and rivers within 150 miles. The railroad will be built in the Swan River Valley, and part of it next summer. I think it is a good country for a poor man, and I would advise anyone to come here, if they have no home and want to get a free home, but would advise all to come first and see the country before moving, as all people don't see alike, but, of course, all must do as they like. There is plenty of wild fruit, such as strawberries, red raspberries, plums, cherries, cranberries, black currants and gooseberries. Land is going fast, and those that want free homes must come soon. Railway land sells from \$2 to \$5 per acre; other improved farms at \$2,000 to \$4,000 for 160 acres. The Swan River Valley is a beautiful valley for anyone to settle in. The land is a black sandy loam from 12 to 20 inches deep, and then a clay sub-soil, good for wheat, oats, barley and all root crops.

Hoping this may be of some good to those wanting homes in Manitoba, I will now close.

(Signed)

W. A. Danks,
Dauphin, Manitoba.

Edmonton, Alta., December 8th, 1898.

B. Davies, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,

154 1/2 East 3rd St., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: In driving all over the Edmonton district, for six

days, we have not found one settler who was not more than pleased with the country and its productions and would not return to the land he left. We have seen people here from all parts of the States, and all doing well. We met a Dakota farmer by name of McLean, who informed us that he had raised more grain here in three years than he did in thirteen where he came from, and on half as much land. We have seen a number of others, both men and women, and all speak in the same strain about Alberta. In our drive over the country in passing the countless school-houses, we could only see happiness in the faces of the little ones. We noticed them all well dressed, equal, if not better, than the same class of children in the State of Minnesota.

The wheat that is raised here is beautiful, the kernel full and plump, and may be termed golden grain, yielding from 30 to 55 bushels to the acre. This statement is not from one farmer, but from hundreds who tell the same tale. Oats yield from 70 to 100 bushels to the acre; barley, 40 to 60, and potatoes from 300 to 400 bushels to the acre.

When we left Ada, Minnesota, we were in the midst of a real Dakota blizzard. When we arrived at Edmonton, a few days later, we found the people on the streets still wearing their summer clothing. We spent three days driving over the country; we suffered nothing from cold even driving until 12 o'clock at night. The country is simply more than we ever dreamed of. The printed matter sent out by the Government does not half tell of the grand country in Alberta, open for millions of people to make beautiful homes for themselves. Too much cannot be said in its praise.

We saw the cattle and horses in herds, grazing on the prairie like in summer time, all sleek and fat. We were informed by several farmers that most of the stock run out all winter. We find the market extra good here for beef and pork. Hogs fetch 42c. a lb., live weight. A 3-year-old steer will sell for from \$40 to \$45 right from the prairie. Coal is sold in the town of Edmonton for \$2 per ton, and farmers can secure coal at the mines themselves for 75 cents per load.

We find that settlers can purchase their farming implements

as cheaply here as in the States, taking freight charges and duty into consideration on new machinery.

Before closing, we say to you one and all, come to Alberta, where there are homes for millions and a promise for something to lay by for old age.

Yours most truly,

(Signed.)

Thomas Rattray, Ada, Minnesota.

Mathew Ormess, Ada, Minnesota.

Jacob Bentley, Ada, Minnesota.

Stephen Plumley, El Paso, Price Co., Wisconsin.

THE GREAT CANADIAN NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

Benjamin Davies, Canadian Government Agent,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: The following is a complete and true report of our examinations of the Canadian Northwestern Territories:

Winnipeg is the metropolis of the Canadian West, and is a fine growing city of nearly 50,000 inhabitants and has a great future as a wholesale distributing point. Going west over the Canadian Pacific Railway the first 20 miles is low meadow land, where lots of hay is cut annually for the Winnipeg market. After passing the meadow lands we came to a fine farming country in the vicinity of Portage la Prairie and Brandon. This farming country extends west to Moose Jaw. After passing Moose Jaw we came into a fine grazing country where were the finest cattle we ever saw in the world. This grazing country extends west to Calgary and south to the international boundary line and north to Olds on the C. & E. R. R. At Olds we came into the dairy and mixed farming country. In the vicinity of Olds, Government lands can still be had within five miles of the railroad, and railroad lands can be had near the railroad for \$3 per acre, on long time and low interest. At Bowden we met H. F. Powell, an old Minnesota man, who has lived there six years, and is well pleased with his location. Mr. Powell says he can locate a good many more homesteads in four to six miles from the station, and nearly all the railroad lands are still for sale.

Innisfail is a very prosperous village with a happy and contented people. Homesteads can still be had near this thriving village. Red Deer has a good hotel, flour mills, saw mills, and a creamery, and is a good point for intending settlers to look over, as there are still homestead lands within 10 to 15 miles, and railroad lands near town. At Lacombe a great many Michigan people have settled, and all think they are in the best country in the world. Wetaskiwin is the largest town on the C. & E. R. R., between Calgary and Edmonton. Here you come into a fine farming country with good soil, plenty of timber and good water. There is a large Scandinavian settlement to the east, and a German settlement to the west. Here we consider it a good point for people seeking homesteads. By going east you can find homesteads in 18 to 20 miles, and the railroad company will surely run a branch from here east as soon as the country is settled up enough to justify building it. At Leduc there is still homestead lands within 10 to 15 miles. Here the Michigan people are flocking in by car loads. Edmonton is located on the banks of the Saskatchewan River, and has a population of nearly 5,000. It is the centre of as fine a farming country as there is on the American continent. At Edmonton we took teams and drove out among the farmers. We went northeast to the Sturgeon River settlement. The first day we had dinner with Mr. J. A. Rye, a farmer who lives on section 7, township 55, range 23. He came from the Province of New Brunswick. Has lived on his farm six years. He never had a failure in crops, and his wheat has averaged from 30 to 45 bushels per acre; his oats from 70 to 100 bushels; barley from 50 to 70 bushels, and potatoes were always good. Alexander Cameron, who lives on section 18, same township, tells us a similar story. Louie Jumbo lives on section 12, township 55, range 23. This is near old Fort Saskatchewan. He has lived there 19 years and never had a crop failure, and never raised less than 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, some years he got 50 bushels. We crossed the Saskatchewan River at the Port, and went south and met Mr. Cunningham, from North Dakota, who has lived on his farm three miles south of Fort Saskatchewan for six

years. Mr. Cunningham said last year: "My wheat averaged 39 bushels per acre, and I sold it for 70 cents. I have not threshed yet, but my wheat will average more than it did last year." We asked Mr. Cunningham if he liked it better here than in North Dakota. He said: "This is the best country I ever saw." "Mr. Cunningham, please give some of your reasons for liking this country so well?" "In the first place, it is the best soil I ever saw. We never have had a crop failure; our horses can run outdoors all winter, and come out fat in the spring; our cattle can do the same, but I consider it inhuman to let my cattle run out in storms, and I have shelters for my cattle. We can have good beef every month in the year without feeding grain; the grass keeps all kinds of stock fat the year round." We talked with at least 50 different farmers, some from Ontario, some from North Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan and Montana, and they all told the same story, that wheat averaged 30 to 50 bushels per acre, oats from 70 to 100 bushels, barley from 50 to 70 bushels, and potatoes from 400 to 800 bushels. The soil in the Edmonton district is a black loam from 2 to 4 feet deep, and a clay subsoil. The land is all good; plenty of timber for building and firewood, and plenty of coal along the Saskatchewan and Sturgeon rivers, and can be had at the mines for \$1 per load. The water is good. We consider the Edmonton land district as good for farming as any country we ever saw. Homesteads can be had within 20 to 30 miles of Edmonton, and railroad lands within eight miles.

The farmers are all contented and happy, with their granaries full of grain and plenty of fat cattle, sheep and hogs, and a good market at their doors for everything they have for sale, and plenty of wood and coal for the hauling, and very low taxes, and the Canadian Government doing everything they can for their people, and no chattel mortgages or seed grain notes to worry them. We cannot see any reason why the Canadian farmer should not be perfectly happy and contented. We will join them just as soon as we can arrange our business. We have no hesitation in recommending the country around Edmonton and along the Calgary and Edmonton Railway to our friends. The people are all kind and generous to strangers, and are very

anxious for Americans to come and settle among them. No one can imagine the extent and resources of the great Canadian Northwestern Territories until they look them over.

Yours truly,
(Signed.)

L. A. Paddock, Delegates,
Wadena, Wadena Co., Minn.
Adam Aicher, Delegate,
Hewitt, Todd Co., Minn.

REPORT OF FRENCH DELEGATIONS

Benjamin Davies, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: We left on the 2nd day of August for the Northwest Territories; we reached Winnipeg on the 23rd, and then went to St. Eustace. We saw some nice farming lands and good cattle. Grain was mostly all cut. We then went to Calgary and stopped there two days; it is a very nice town, nice farm lands 16 miles from Calgary. Farmers seem to be all well off. On the 29th we left Edmonton. North Edmonton is a nice town; and the Saskatchewan river at Edmonton is a very nice river, and a number of coal mines along the banks of the river. Fuel is very cheap. We then drove to Beaver Lake to look at some homesteads. There is very good farming lands at Beaver Lake, and plenty of wood and good water, and plenty of hay. The finest cattle we ever saw are there; the Buffalo grass cannot be beat for raising cattle; horses and sheep. The grain was mostly all cut, and looked very good. We took up ten homesteads at Beaver Creek for ourselves and friends. We will leave for Beaver Lake this coming winter.

Yours truly,
(Signed.)

Arthur McGee,
Domina Letourneau,
George Letourneau,
Withrow Station, Minn.

TESTIMONY OF SETTLERS.

South Edmonton, N.W.T., April 25, 1898.
C. J. Broughton, Esq., 1223 Monadnock Building,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: Before I left Chicago I made a promise to write you and give you my opinion respecting this country.

The car which you had placed at our service was everything that anyone could desire, the sleeping berths are very comfortable, plenty of room; the kitchen on the cars is a very great convenience, enabling us to cook our meals with the least possible trouble. The trip across the country was very pleasant. We arrived at Calgary a little behind time on account of a small accident to our engine.

We arrived here about a week to ten days too early, as when we got here the snow had not all gone, so were unable to get out into the country. Some of our party began to get a little impatient at being obliged to remain in town, which we did until April 12th, when upon that day we started out to look over the country. The land between Edmonton and Leduc, within a reasonable distance from the railway, is all taken up under the C. P. R. lands, which are held by the company at \$3 per acre. There are a few quarters that they even ask as high as \$5.

The following morning we drove out 12 miles west of Leduc, where two of our party located, and they seem very well pleased with their selection. The land about there is partially wooded; the soil is all that could be desired. We travelled east of Wetaskiwin for about 37 miles in the district situated on the Dried Meat Lake, which at this point is a part of the Battle River. It is one of the most beautiful districts I ever saw; the soil is a very deep black loam, plenty of water as fine as possible to obtain in any part of the world. The lake is covered over with wild duck and geese at this time of the year; large numbers were there on our arrival. At every farm at which we called we could see that they were living in a land of plenty. All our party were delighted with the country, but on account of the distance from the

market and the hilly nature of the trails, prevented any of us from taking up a homestead.

Thursday, April 21st, Mr. F. A. Pierce and I went out on a trip to the Sturgeon River district. We drove direct north of Edmonton 15 miles upon a most beautiful road, when we took to the trail and drove seven miles, where we found Sec. 20, Tp. 56, Range 23, vacant. After looking over the section we decided to accept it and have located on the west half section. We have fine water, all the timber we require for some time and a large quantity of open land, all ready for the plow.

If you have any good people apply to you and ask where they can get good farms, send them to us, as there is plenty of fine land close by to be had. We have located 22 miles from here, 12 miles from Fort Saskatchewan, where there is a fine roller flour mill and a good market; it is headquarters for the N. W. M. P. We are three miles from a grist and saw mill, have good fishing one and a half miles, all kinds of game in the woods. After next week my address will be New Lunnon, Alberta, N.W.T.

Yours very truly,

(Signed.)

W. Mason.

Edmonton, April 19th, 1898.

C. J. Broughton, Canadian Government Agent,
1223 Monadnock Building, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: On April 12th we started out to look for homestead lands, leaving Edmonton about noon of that date and making Leduc in the evening, where we found the Government had a building prepared for us. Leaving Leduc, we went to Conger creek, and here we found abundance of timber covering the very best of land, with open places of twenty (20) to thirty (30) acres to each quarter section. Leaving Leduc for Wetaskiwin, passed through some very fine country. Staying at Wetaskiwin over night, we arrived at the head of Dried Meat Lake in the evening, passing through the finest part of the country so far travelled. We camped at night on the farm of

Mr. Hill, who has a fine and extensively improved farm. Next day we, twenty of us, went in different directions to look over the country, and we must say on both sides of Dried Meat Lake there is the finest country we have seen and plenty of timber, and every one of our party was very much pleased, and the topic of our conversation was our future. We all like this country and intend to make our homes here. We have examined all grains, the products of this country and intend to make our homes here, and we all appreciate the system of the Government in assisting men to settle here. We have examined all grains, the products of this country, and believe them the best we have ever seen, and more to the acre than in Illinois. Also cattle that fed on the prairie all winter are in good condition in the spring. And we are glad to state that we have found everything here as stated to us by the Government representative in Chicago, and we all thought that if the country was half as good as stated by C. J. Broughton, we would be satisfied; the country is much better than we thought of in Illinois.

Yours very respectfully,

W. C. Schmidt, Illinois.

C. B. Shantz, Illinois.

G. L. Simpkins, Illinois.

C. E. Allyn, Bradley, Ill.

N. Girard, Bradley, Ill.

Bernhardt Schultz, Bradley, Ill.

Albert Zeimer, Bradley, Ill.

Charley Black, Bradley, Ill.

John Smyth, Bradley, Ill.

Wm. Mason, Bradley, Ill.

James Braden, Wisconsin.

Samuel Braden, Wisconsin.

Jesse Barret, Wisconsin.

Henry Schultz, Bradley, Ill.

Thos. Worth, Bradley, Ill.

Frank F. Pierce, Cook Co., Ill.

J. Worth, Bradley, Ill.

Leo Cravier, Bradley, Ill.

M. A. Worth, Bradley, Ill.

South Edmonton, April 25th, 1898.

C. J. Broughton, Canadian Government Agent,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: Since writing my last letter to you I have thought of a few more particulars which you might wish to know. In my last letter I did not mention anything in respect to the quality of the grain and other produce which is grown in this district. I have been shown the very finest wheat, oats and barley that I ever saw, not even excepting Lincolnshire, England, which county was famed for growing some of the best grain in the country. The wheat I have seen is of a wonderful bright shade, the oats would rule No. 1 in any market in the world, and barley, No. 1 maltish. I have had interviews with farmers from England, Ireland, Scotland, and also the States, and they one and all tell me that this district is the finest they ever struck. I have seen cattle that had run out all winter, and were in first-class condition for market, in fact much better than the cattle we get from the Stock Yards and which are slaughtered for use of Chicago people.

You cannot make any mistake in advising anyone to settle in this district.

Yours very truly,

(Signed.)

W. Mason.

Chicago, May 14th, 1898.

Chas. J. Broughton, 1223 Monadnock Block, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: I have just returned from a trip through Saskatchewan and Assiniboia, in Canada, and North and South Dakota and Minnesota, in the States. I have thoroughly investigated these separate districts for my own personal interest, to find the best place for myself and family to settle permanently. I am an experienced and practical farmer and rancher. I will mention an incident that occurred at Portal, on the boundary line, where we were detained half an hour. Six or seven of us got out of the hot car in our shirt sleeves, and were walking around the platform and vicinity, when some one ran across a thermometer that registered 10 below zero, which immediately started an argument, no one being willing to admit that it was much

colder than freezing. At Regina, as at the district seat of every district, the Government has provided a building for the accommodation of settlers. They are well built, warm and commodious.

I strongly advise any man who knows what district he wishes to settle in, to take his family right with him, bring a supply of bedding and a few dishes, and he can keep his family at the settlers' halls situated, at different places, in comparative comfort in nearly every case, much cheaper than leaving them behind while he hunts up land and builds his new home.

Prince Albert is quite a lively and picturesque place, situated on the banks of the north branch of the Saskatchewan river. There is a large flour mill, three saw-mills, large brick bank building, about 100 miscellaneous stores and a good cable ferry. I will quote some of the ruling prices on such things that a prospective settler may need; these prices, of course, only apply to this particular neighborhood, and I consider them exorbitant. For instance, lumber averages \$22 per thousand; a pair of glazed sash frames, medium size, 12 lights of glass, costs \$1.50; kerosene is from 40 to 50 cents per gallon; sugar, 16 pounds, \$1; tea and coffee, about the same as in the Eastern States and Ontario; and tobacco just double; a good four-foot drag or log saw, with two clips, \$4; the best axes, complete with handles, \$1.25; butter, buy or sell, 20 cents per pound; eggs, buy or sell, from 10 to 20 cents, according to season; horses are rather high, and heavy drafts are scarce and in demand and a team weighing 2,600 readily sell at \$200; 2,800, \$250; 3,000, \$300 to \$350. I am going to ship three teams of heavy mares from Chicago for my own use. The average cow, "coming in," ranges from \$25 to \$35.

The winters start in very suddenly, generally about the 1st of December, and for four months the mercury seldom, if ever, gets above zero, during which time from two to three feet of snow accumulates, but by reason of the extreme dryness of the air during the winter and the absence of wind, the weather is scarcely noticed in comparison to the winters of Illinois. Of course, the returns of crop from a

given number of acres is governed here, as in the wheat-raising districts of the United States, by the amount of rainfall and moisture it received when most needed during its growth and maturity, and by the most careful and painstaking inquiry I could learn of no year in the past when there had been anything like an entire failure, from this or any other source; 25 bushels to the acre is probably the lowest yield recorded. I have had interviews with farmers all round Prince Albert, but find it hard to form an approximately correct wheat average, most of them striking me as being inclined to over-estimate, in fact, some gave me figures in good faith that I do not care to quote, as while they may be correct in their case, might be held up to ridicule by the uninformed, but, to sum it up, I will take the liberty of estimating the average wheat yield year in and year out, for the district of Saskatchewan, at between 34 to 36 bushels to the acre, and conscientiously believe my estimate on the safe side. The products of this district are wheat, barley, oats, and cattle for the market, all vegetables (but tomatoes), and eggs, butter and poultry for the local markets.

For my part, I am going to settle somewhere in township 45, range 16 or 17. This piece of country is cut up with living creeks and small lakes. The supply of poplar and spruce is unlimited. Thousands of tons of wild hay going to waste every year. Of course, where a stretch of hay land occurs, the ground is so low and wet as to be worthless for farming, but all around here the soil is similar to that around Regina—a heavy black clay loam from one to ten feet deep, with a clay sub-soil. It is unusually hard to work the first two years after breaking. The dead grass should be burnt off as early as possible in the spring, but never under any circumstances commence breaking until the grass is good and green and of fair growth. June is the best time to commence. This is called Stony Creek and Carrot River country, and lays about seventy miles east by a little south of Prince Albert. Seventy miles to market is the only drawback this country has, so that a settler coming in here had better raise stock chiefly, and only such grain as he may need for his own use, and if he has a few loads to spare, haul it to market when he has most time

during the winter. There is to be a railroad through this country, the right-of-way being surveyed and the first half of the road completed from Winnipeg. When this road is completed, it will make Stony Creek over 200 miles nearer to Winnipeg than Prince Albert and give them a vast advantage over Prince Albert, but work on the construction of this road has been stopped, and as yet I have not been able to learn when it will be put through, as I have not yet got hold of the right source to make inquiries, but am attending to that now.

North of Prince Albert, across the river, for about thirty miles, the land is not what I call fit for farming. The land is light, sandy, stony and densely wooded. Forty miles north commences a vast tract of land that is more or less low and is a veritable stockman's paradise. If you have capital, and wish to engage in stock raising, go and see that country by all means.

West of Prince Albert, thirty miles, is Shell River settlement, where a settler can find some very good "quarters" within three to eight miles of plenty of timber, but, on the whole, the land is too light and sandy, and is often the only district where the crops are damaged by frost. But at present the market and shipping possibilities are in their favor.

Most respectfully yours,
(Signed.) Geo. H. Hawkins.

Danforth, Ill., October 31st, 1898.

Mr. C. J. Broughton,
1223 Monadnock Building, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: The City of Winnipeg surprised us greatly, and we spent the day pleasantly taking in the sights. The next morning we took the train for Lauder. Our train was loaded down with harvesters from the east going out to help harvest the immense crops of Manitoba. The crops along the line in many places were excellent, and the advanced state of the country a surprise to us. The houses, barns, and general appearance of the farms in many sections would compare favorably with many in Illinois. After a walk of three miles from Lauder we called on Mr. Alcock, Sr., who has made a success of farming there. He was loud in his praise of that

section of Manitoba. We were strongly tempted to locate right there, but improved land in that locality ranges from \$15 to \$25 per acre, which is rather above the average homesecker. The Edmonton district was our objective point, but we decided, if things had been misrepresented, we would look no further, but so far from that being the case, we found everything better than we expected and decided to go on to Edmonton. The crops at Brandon Experimental Farm were being harvested, and such crops of wheat, oats and barley I had never seen before anywhere. We left Brandon for Edmonton, passing through a country that is mainly devoted to grazing, seeing many fine herds of cattle and sheep. This seems to be a great cattle country. The cattle everywhere were fat, and right off the grass would compare favorably with our corn-fed cattle. And I think that a man with sufficient capital could do well here in the cattle business, having almost unlimited range, and prices being good. The Sturgeon River district is a fine farming district, harvesting being nearly completed, and the crops fine. We continued to drive for four days in different directions, and the whole party were well pleased with the country surrounding Edmonton. The farmers seemed to be prospering, and every man we talked with seemed to think there was no place like it, many of the settlers being from the States and have no desire to return. One field we saw had been in wheat twelve years in succession. I think this district is well adapted for mixed farming, and a good place for a man of small capital to locate, there being good soil, range for stock, timber for building and fuel, and coal can be had at two dollars per ton at Edmonton. While one must go out twenty-five or thirty miles to get suitable homestead land, railroad land can be bought quite close to town for from \$3 to \$4 per acre. The market for farm produce, when we were at Edmonton was quite satisfactory. But whether it will hold up with increased immigration and production remains to be seen. Farm machinery is much higher than in the Middle States, and many household articles, especially kerosene oil, which sells at 45-cents per gallon, which seems exorbitant; clothing is about the

same price as here, while fruit is naturally higher. I would advise the intending settler, who has good stock and farming implements, to take them along.

We also took a trip to the Swan River Valley, where there will be a large immigration in the spring, many thousands of acres of land having been taken this fall. We stopped at Dauphin, a town of less than two years, and were surprised to see the growth it had made, having three grain elevators, a saw mill, flour mill, two livery stables, and many hotels, and doing a business that many a city might envy. The town is surrounded by a fine farming country, the soil black and deep and the crops are good this year.

In conclusion, I will say that I intend to return in the spring to locate, and can conscientiously recommend this country to anyone who wants to have a home of their own, and a good return for industrious effort, which one cannot always get in these times of high rents and low prices.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

James Common.

Dantorth, Ill.

FURTHER REPORTS OF UNITED STATES DELEGATES ON WESTERN CANADA.

The following reports have been received by the officials of the Immigration Branch of the Department of the Interior from delegates from different districts in the States of Michigan, Iowa, South Dakota, Missouri, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, Illinois and California, who were sent by farmers residing in their respective districts, to investigate and report regarding the advantages offered by Western Canada as an agricultural country. These reports speak for themselves, and show how deeply impressed these delegates were by the magnificent opportunities of the Great Canadian West, as unfolded to their eyes on their recent trip.

Alameda, Canada, Sept. 12, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: We are here and find everything as you said. We



REAPING WHEAT IN WESTERN CANADA.

will go with Mr. McCarven in the morning and select our land. I wrote my brother to come and bring his tools, as we will have our hands full this winter getting up houses.

I will write you more in a few days. Best regards from all the boys.

From your friend,
(Signed.) Charley Knebusch.

Detroit, Mich, Oct 28, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Dominion Government Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: I have returned from Alameda; met all my friends and saw the finest agricultural country in the world. Present and future opportunities are great. I took up a quarter section and am going to buy three more quarter sections. I have this day resigned my position as Secretary and Treasurer of the Michigan Heater Company; am selling my property here and will move out to Alameda in March. Some of my friends here will go along with me.

Thanking you, I am,

Yours truly,
(Signed.) A. Knebusch.

Breckenridge, Mich., Oct. 4, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: After quite an extended trip through Manitoba, Alberta and Western Canada generally, I wish to report to you and the public that the country through which I travelled far exceeded, in its fine climate and resources, my utmost expectations. I found Western Canada to be all that the Government pamphlets and official publications claimed for it. The land is the very richest that I ever saw. I believe that a man with the true snap in him can make a grand home for himself in a short time in this well-favored country.

There was one remarkable thing I saw all along the route at every place of any note, and that was well constructed grain elevators of immense capacity. This spoke louder to me than all the pamphlets I read, for men do not spend money

that way simply for show. They expect them to be filled with grain, and I am certain, from what I saw, that they will not be disappointed.

We next arrived at Edmonton. We went in a northeasterly direction as far as Fort Saskatchewan, and then took a sweep to the southward, and back to Edmonton through a wide tract of magnificent country, abounding in splendid crops and fine cattle. The farmers here seemed to be most active and industrious, and well satisfied with their circumstances and surroundings.

My friend, Mr. Barnes, with whom I travelled, was greatly taken with this Edmonton district, which is grand, healthy and promising without a doubt. Then we returned to Innisfail, and enjoyed another two days' drive into the surrounding country, which is excellently adapted for mixed farming, and settled with a thriving and contented peasantry.

All the different districts of the country which we had the pleasure of visiting were rich and inviting, but, to my mind, the Dauphin district surpassed them all in fertility of soil and all those accessories to husbandry which go to make up substantial agricultural communities, and well-suited in every particular for a practical farmer's home. Nowhere did we see the slightest dissatisfaction among the farmers, who were everywhere contented and happy, but on every side we perceived the undoubted evidences of wonderful abundance and great prosperity.

In conclusion, I will say, in the most candid manner, that Western Canada is the country of all others for the industrious farmer to make his home.

I remain, dear sir,

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed.) J. McAllum.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Oct. 17, 1898.

Mr. McInnes,

Dear Sir: I live seven miles from Grand Rapids. I was at the State Fair, and, though I had some pamphlets about the land in Canada, I was surprised at the fine show of grain and grasses that I saw there, and I started the next week to see

the country myself. I think Canada West is a great place; such fine farms for the cost of going there. I only wish I had known about it sooner. I found Manitoba pretty well taken up. I went to the Alameda country and found the farmers contented, and so they might be, for they have had a good crop, many of them that went up only last year. All the land between the village of Alameda and the Moose Mountains is very good. There was a great deal of rain in Manitoba, but not so much farther west. I liked the country about Edmonton and Red Deer very well; plenty of wood and coal. I saw great many cattle and horses in the Alberta country. I expected to find good land, but I did not expect to find the country so well supplied with schools, churches, cheese factories, grain elevators and good farm buildings.

Well, Mr. McInnes, I want you to write me and tell me how much it will cost me and my family to go to Red Deer station. I know a few people about there, and I am satisfied there is no better place in the country; they have done well and got pretty well off. I have two boys; one will soon be eighteen years old and the other is sixteen, one girl fourteen, one eleven, boy nine, girl seven, and myself and wife. I will take my horses, and perhaps a couple of cows, but I will tell you more particulars. I have a chance to sell my place, and will go about the first of April.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

John Bowen.

AN OHIO FARMER MOVES WEST.

Ashland, Ohio, Dec. 6th, 1899.

M. V. McInnes, Esq.,

No. 2 Merrill Block, Detroit.

Dear Sir: If I go up to Edmonton soon, can I leave my family at the Immigration Hall until I put up a temporary building on the place I bought of the C. P. R. Co. at Wetaskiwin? I bought 320 acres 8 miles east of Wetaskiwin and would like to come up soon and will bring two of my neighbors right along with me. I have distributed about 100 packages of Canada literature since I came home and I think

I have placed them where they will bring forth fruit. I think there will be quite an immigration from our county to Alberta in the near future, as I have many calls for pamphlets regarding Alberta. There is a great interest springing up down here since I came home in regard to your country; I am doing all I can to have men down here make an investigation of Alberta, for I know if they come up and see it they will never come back to Ohio until they locate. The worst country I saw in Alberta is better than the best we have in Ohio. To see it is all that is needed to convince anyone of its good qualities. I found it altogether far better than I expected to, as the Queen of Sheba said when she visited King David; the half has not been told me. Please send me the Edmonton newspaper and I will pay you for it when I come up. I will have my sale Dec. 12th, 1899 (next Tuesday), and then will get ready to leave my native State of Ohio for our future home in Alberta, and I know my family will be pleased with our new home.

(Signed)

Nathan S. Myers.

Ashland, Ashland Co., Ohio, U.S.A.

Midland, Mich., Oct. 21, 1898.

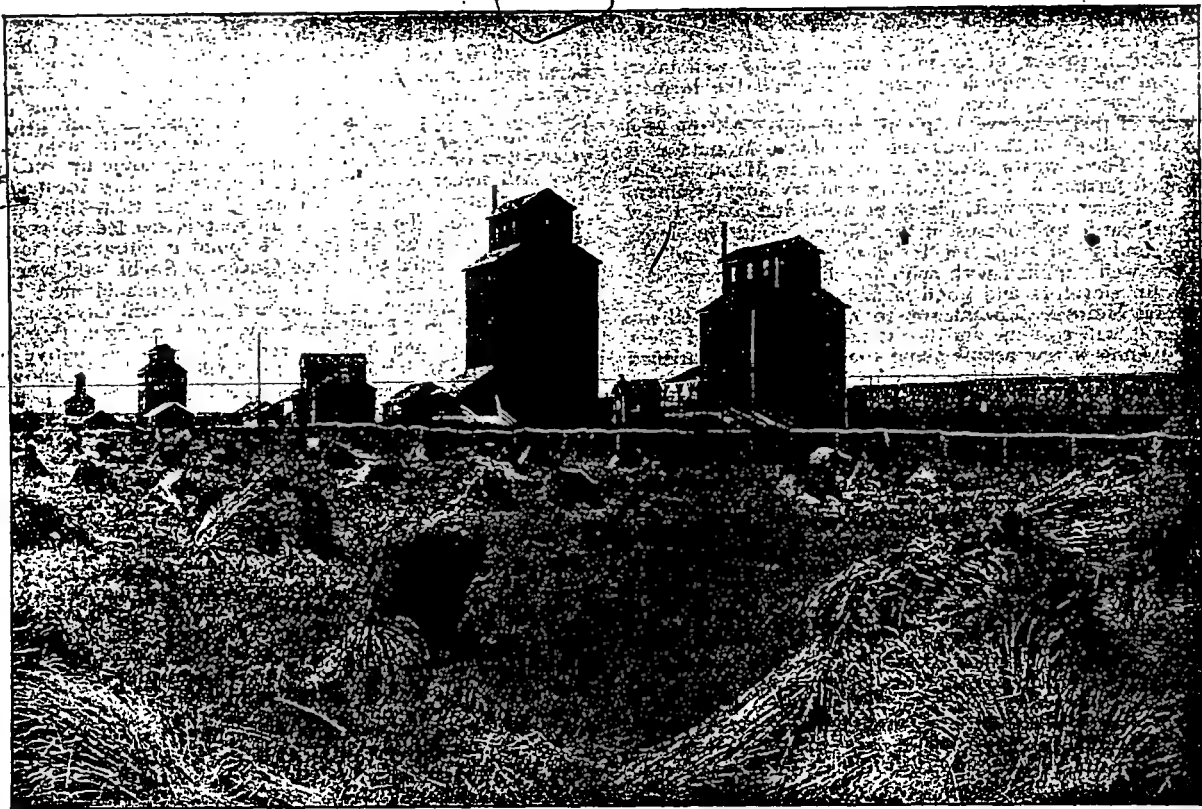
M. V. McInnes, Esq.,

Agent of the Canadian Government, Detroit, Mich.

My dear Sir: I left Midland early in August and visited many points of interest between Winnipeg and Edmonton. When I left Winnipeg I journeyed through a rich and rolling country, studded on both sides of the way with huge waving fields of the yellow grain, amid the largest and finest farms I ever looked at, till I came to Yorkton, which lies at a distance of 280 miles from Winnipeg.

I examined the country around Yorkton for two or three days and talked a long time with many farmers, taking particular notice of everything that went to make up a farmer's outfit and the manner in which he went about harvesting his wonderful crops.

This is a stock and grain-raising country, finer and more



GRAIN SHIPPING STATION IN WESTERN CANADA.

promising than I ever saw before. No one could make a mistake in settling here.

Well satisfied with what I saw here, I went off to Regina, passing through immense fields of wheat and barley, with the same evidences of great prosperity on all sides. Every one we saw and spoke to seemed to be thoroughly well satisfied with their prospects. They were all well clad and the picture of health and contentment.

School-houses and churches were everywhere to be seen. There appeared to be plenty of wood for every purpose, with abundance of pure, clear, cold water on every man's farm. Wherever I went around this section the children looked healthy and well cared for, with bright eyes and red glowing cheeks. Sure signs of good times and thrift. No place for a doctor this.

Mixed farming flourishes in this locality and the man who cannot succeed near Regina, with health, sobriety and industry, can succeed nowhere. I am fully persuaded of this. My own long experience in Michigan makes it a certainty to my mind. Had I all my manhood's years to live over again I would surely live them in Western Canada, and cultivate its wonderful soil with great confidence and a contented mind.

The Carrot River settlement was another place I visited. I found practically the same favorable conditions existing here as at the former places. A black, loamy soil, immense crops, sunshiny weather, well-conditioned kine, powerful horses, new modelled machinery, neat farm houses, gigantic grain elevators, well-filled school houses, pure water, a healthy climate, well-clad farmers, busy housewives, bright children, waving seas of wheat and barley, a contented people and happy homes. All these I saw wherever I went.

Calgary is a stock-raising and ranching district that, I believe, has no peer among the farming countries of the world. The droves of fat cattle and troops of well-fed horses attested at once to the great feeding properties of the succulent grasses that abound there. It costs comparatively little to raise these horses and cattle.

They thrive on what grows without cultivation and a slight diversity of food with good attention is all that seems to be required to produce most excellent and saleable stock. A yeoman with some means and an eye to the raising of all kinds of stock, could locate here to much advantage and become independent in a few years.

Edmonton was next visited. The towns and scattered settlements between Calgary and this point make up a large country in themselves. They are settled by the representatives of different nationalities. The Britisher, the American, the Canadian—both English and French—the German, the Pole, the Russian, the Scandinavian, the Anglo-Saxon and the Celt are all here, thriving and active.

It is needless for me to detail what I saw in the surroundings of Edmonton. The same prolific land and grand farms, suitable for mixed farming in every respect, met my eye at every stopping place. The delightful climate, the fertility of the soil and the general contentment of the people, are features which speak loudly for the future of this great country.

I am, dear Sir, yours very respectfully,

(Signed)

William Bolton.

A SPLENDID OUTLOOK.

June 17, 1898.

The following letter, which has been forwarded to us by Mr. Caven, though written at Winnipeg, is descriptive of the Swan River District, near where B. Clark & Sons and others from Michigan have settled. The letter speaks well for this section of the Northwest.

Winnipeg, Man., June 1, 1898.

D. L. Caven, Esq., Colonization Agent, Bad Axe, Mich.

Dear Sir: I duly received the marked copy of Brown City Banner of 20th May last; and I have read with considerable interest the report of the arrival of Mr. Clark and his two sons in the Dauphin district.

You will no doubt be glad to hear that the Swan River district is likely to prove as inviting a field for immigration as Dauphin. The land agent had not been in Swan River district six hours before he had written over fifty homestead entries, and the latest reports we had from the district goes to show that over 150 legitimate settlers had made entry, and that large parties were then in the district and on the way with a view to locating.

I am expecting that many of our Michigan friends will join in the procession, and that the Swan River District will in every sense be a duplicate of the Dauphin district.

Yours truly,
D. B. Hanna.

A LETTER FROM ALBERTA.

The following letter written by Thomas H. Graham, of Calkinsville, Mich., who, along with J. I. Kirkpatrick, of Clare, paid a visit to the Canadian West this spring, will prove interesting:—

Calkinsville, June 14, 1898.

Mr. J. N. Grieve, Dominion Colonization Agent,
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

Dear Sir: After an extended trip through Alberta and Northwestern Canada, I wish to say that the country through which I travelled far exceeded my expectations. I thought perhaps the immigration pamphlet was printed to boom the country, but I found the country better than they stated. The land is the richest I ever saw and I believe that any man with a small capital and a little energy, can, in a few years, become well off. There was one thing I noticed along the way at every place of any account was grain elevators of great capacity; they must mean something. They were not built for fun or show, they were built to store the great grain crops of which they are sure every year. I found settlers from Michigan whose circumstances I knew when settling there, and they have done well. They have surrounded themselves with everything to make home comfortable, and

I expect to see them well off in a few years. Grain of all kinds yield great crops and as for cattle raising or ranching, I believe it is the best country in the world.

It is a grand country for the poor man, and it is a good country for the rich man. The man with money can find good paying investments, and the man without money can soon get a start and grow up with the country.

Yours truly,
Thomas H. Graham.

Note.—Mr. Kirkpatrick, who accompanied Mr. Graham on his trip through Western Canada, has shewn his faith in the country by moving there with his wife, his sons and their wives and families.

Kalkaská, Kalkaska County, Michigan,
January 21st, 1899.

Mr. V. McInnes, Canadian Government Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: Although I am only recovering from an attack of the grippe, and am quite weak, I will cheerfully give you my views on Western Canada, which is rightly called the poor man's country.

I arrived at Calgary, Alberta. I remained for two or three weeks to see what the opening of spring was like. It was very beautiful, the grass coming rapidly right along. The nights were cool, but there was no frost. Again, on the last of October all around Calgary I found beautiful weather, warm days and cool nights, but no frost. There I met a number of settlers who had taken up homesteads in the vicinity three or four years ago. They said they would never return to the States, but remain where they were. They were all busy and said that this was the time they made their money. If a man has a few hundred dollars in this place it will set him up all right and at once, and even without money he can get along, but it will take him some little time to get well under way.

There are thousands of men with families in the east renting farms or owning small holdings. They may have a team

of horses, and perhaps a cow or two. They work and plod away year after year to see the same unsatisfactory ending as the years go by. I notice this state of things more now than I did before. I have talked with a good many of them, and I say to them that they had better get what they can for their farms and stuff and go at once to Alberta, for delay will only make their financial condition worse, for it will hinder them from getting homesteads near the railroad and drive them back farther from it the longer they stay away. Besides, it will only cost them a trifle to get to Alberta and they can buy most of the things they want very reasonably when they get there.

Alberta is a poor man's country, because they can each get a free homestead farm of 160 acres and have only \$10.00 to pay for the title papers; that, besides being able to cultivate great grain crops, they can grow potatoes in abundance and cabbage and all kinds of vegetables and turnips, and all the root crops, and as soon as ever these are taken out of the ground cash is paid for them on the spot.

As for healthfulness, they hardly know what sickness is in that country. Fevers and biliousness I never saw there. As for wheat, it is at the head of the class, and oats come next. I saw some of the Alberta oats, and I tell you it is large and filled good.

I have got a good homestead claim near Calgary, and intend going out next spring with my son and take up another for him near at hand. Then we will work together and make our home in that fine country. I would advise every man who wishes to get on and make a good home for himself and be prosperous to go to Alberta.

Yours very respectfully,
(Signed.) G. W. Carothers.

Edmonton, Nov. 10, 1898.

J. Grieve, Canadian Government Agent,
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

Dear Sir: We, the undersigned delegates, beg to state we have been looking over Alberta district in the vicinity of Ed-

monton, and are pleased with the country and its productions; in fact, so much that we have each taken up a homestead and bought three quarters of C. P. R. land. This indication is sufficient to show the public that we are more than satisfied with Alberta and its capabilities.

(Signed.)

J. A. Sangster,
Irvin Ferris,
Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Winnipeg, Man., August 15th, 1898.

J. Grieve, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
Mt. Pleasant, Mich., U.S.

Sir: We, the undersigned, delegates from St. Louis, Gratiot County, Michigan, having visited the Edmonton district, submit to you the following report of our opinions of the country:

We saw the districts of Fort Saskatchewan and Stony Plain. We were greatly pleased with these portions, and found the crops to be first-class; in fact, we believe that we saw the best crops in these districts that we have seen since leaving home. They were not as near maturity as some that we saw in Manitoba, but the farmers were satisfied that they would mature before any frost came.

We called upon Mr. William Walker, at Fort Saskatchewan, and examined his crop. He has 125 acres of wheat in crop this year, and we were informed that this is the twelfth year in succession that this has been under crop. From the appearance of the crop, we should judge that it would yield 30 bushels to the acre. We also saw a large field of oats that was looking fine, and insured a large yield.

In our opinion, we think the Edmonton district is all that it is represented to be, and can recommend it to anyone who is desirous of making a home. We cannot see why anyone going into that country, with perseverance and push, cannot succeed.

We visited the Innisfail district and found it adapted for mixed farming. They have not gone very extensively into wheat raising as yet, but as a mixed farming

district it is as good as any we saw. The dairying interest seems to be the most prominent thing amongst the farmers of this district, and they are making a success of it. We visited the creamery at that point, and found them making a first-class quality of butter. We also found that the patrons of the creamery were perfectly satisfied at the manner in which it was conducted.

We also visited the Virden (Manitoba) district, and found it to be a fine country, suitable for wheat raising. The crops looked well, and no doubt there will be a large yield of wheat.

We shall have no hesitancy, on our return home, in recommending the Northwest as a place of settlement, and, as soon as we can dispose of our places, we intend returning and settling.

Yours, etc.,

(Signed.)

John McCallum,
S. M. Baines.

REPORT OF FRENCH-CANADIAN DELEGATION FROM SAGINAW COUNTY.

Saginaw, Mich., April 11, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Room 1, Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: Our idea in going to Western Canada at this time of year was principally to get acquainted with the winters of the Northwest, which had been reported very severe.

We left Brandon on the 15th of March, and went so far as Moosomin. There we stopped over night, and the next morning we started with a sled and good span of horses with the intention of visiting Moose Mountain. The part of the country is all prairie, without a single tree. It is not exactly a flat ground, but what is called more or less rolling land. The soil is rich, black loam, adapted to the culture of all kinds of grain. On account of a heavy snow storm, we went only as far as Cannington, which is four miles from Moose Mountain, and directed our steps towards Oxbow. We

stayed three days visiting. From what we have seen in the farmers' granaries, and the reports given to us at the different elevators, that soil must be immensely productive, wheat being from 30 to 35 bushels to the acre, and barley as much as 60 bushels to the acre, while oats are from 45 to 50 bushels to the acre. We left on March 26th for Edmonton, and all along we have seen horses and cattle grazing the grass without the appearance of a shelter, and all looking in good and lively condition. During our three days' stay at Edmonton we visited the farms and farmers, trying to get from them all possible information.

We found the country well supplied with wood for firing and building purposes, and an abundance of coal. There is plenty of water. The rivers and lakes, from reports, are alive with fish, such as whitefish, pickerel, etc. The woods are also well-filled with game of all kinds for the lovers of hunting.

To sum up, we have been well-pleased with the country, and believe that an industrious and economical man, understanding agriculture and willing to devote his time and knowledge to the improvement of his farm, could not help creating for himself and family an enviable future and a pleasant and desirable home. As far as we are concerned, we long for the time when the settlement of our present business affairs will allow us to go and undertake the duties and work of life in that country and in those conditions.

We are at present here in Saginaw, getting ready to start and go there as soon as possible.

Yours truly,
Alexander Loiselle,
Joseph Dubeau,
Edward Roy.

Bryon, Ohio, July 30, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., 1 Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

Respected Sir: Yours of the 23rd instant is before me. I believe that you have a great country of many resources and productions, and a climate that is healthy and agreeable.

A country in its infancy of greatness, a country that will contain, in the near future, many millions of industrious, prosperous and happy people.

I like your honorable mode of treating emigrants. As I have opportunity and leisure will talk Western Canada. I wish no reward, except your continued confidence and good wishes.

Very respectfully,
(Signed.) Emanuel Ryder.

LIKES THE COUNTRY.

("Brown City Banner," Brown City, Sanilac Co., Mich.
March 11th, 1898.)

Through the kindness of W. E. Smith, living west of here, we are permitted to publish the following letter written by Jas. Hewer, who went from Burnside, Lapeer Co., to Edmonton, Alberta, last December, and who is a reliable authority, as he is considered an upright and truthful man. His letter in substance is as follows:—

Edmonton, Alberta, N.W.T., Jan. 30, 1898.
W. E. Smith, Brown City, Mich.

Dear Friend: The first day I was on the market here a farmer came in with a load of oats. I saw him sell them for 24c. a bushel. I asked him how many bushels to the acre did he raise, and he said his crop was not very good this year; he only had from 90 to 100 bushels to the acre. This country is as good as you read in the pamphlets, and better in my idea. I am well satisfied. The Winnipeg country is fine, but I like this section much better for many reasons. Here good coal and wood is in abundance. There has been good sleighing here since the middle of November. The streets are crowded every day with farmers. A man with a good team can make a pile of money, and horses are dear. Ponies are worth from \$25 to \$40, and good big horses are dear as well. I am glad I came when I did, as there is lots of work and good wages, and I think I will work until I

have enough to buy a C. P. R. lot near town, as the free grant homesteads are some distance back. It is mild here now. They say, I think, it has only been about 10 degrees below, but no cold winds; it is steady cold, and they say you do not mind it, but don't you fool yourself, for I can tell you that if you are not dressed warm you will mind the cold. Most of the people here are warmly clad. I must admit it is a healthy country, as most all the people here have a healthy appearance, red rosy cheeks. You ask about the price of horses. You can get a good team for \$120 to \$140. Ponies are selling well just now, but that will not last long. I cannot tell you much about the land, it being all covered with snow, but according to what grain I saw and what they tell me, it cannot be beaten. The country here is settling up fast. Flour is \$2.40 per 100; coal oil is 50c. per gallon, but other things are a little dearer than in Michigan, but not much. People say this is the worst day this winter. It is only a few degrees below, but they say it is worse than when it is 40 below. The timber runs small, and is chiefly poplar, spruce and birch.

Very truly,
James Hewer.

Alameda, N. W. T., May 22, 1898.

Dear Brother August: I have your letter, and am pleased to note that you are all getting along well and are enjoying good health. I would have written you before this, but before doing so, wanted to satisfy myself more fully as to this locality. I desire to say to you that I have fully determined to stay here; so have the others outside of my farm. I have more work than I can do at plastering and brick-laying, and can earn more at my trade in one day than I could in Detroit in two. I want you to sell my house, and if it only brings \$1,800, sell it, as I want to buy 200 acres adjoining my place. I can make more out of the land, ten times over, than I can by renting the house.

There is not a family in this entire locality, who have been

here, five years or over, but what they are in good circumstances. The weather is fine here at present.

When will father and Albert come? Let me know. Best regards from us all.

Your brother,
(Signed.) Herman Knebusch.

1116 Halket Avenue,
Braddock, Pa., Nov. 29th, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Room 1, Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: Last spring I received from you a pamphlet in the Bohemian language, giving information about Western Canada, and after a while, with my friend, Mr. Andrew Takhern, started on a trip through the wonderful country.

We were astonished on our way through Manitoba, and I could not believe my own eyes at the sights we saw. Immense fields of wheat and everything ripe and grand. We arrived at Winnipeg in due time and saw with amazement the surrounding country. The land is rich and good.

Winnipeg is a fine healthy town. The cattle and Canadian horses we saw there are good, strong and large, and the very best we ever saw anywhere. There are about ten Bohemian families living in the city, the men being mostly employed on the railroad.

From Winnipeg we proceeded on July 10th, by the Manitoba & Northwestern railroad, to Yorkton, in Assiniboia. This rising town has been settled for the past five years, and is already a large market centre, surrounded with immense and productive farms, and always filled with farmers with their strong teams. The market day is Saturday, when the town is overrun with farming people of all kinds with farm products, vegetables and varieties of various sorts for sale. Horses and cattle and sheep are there in abundance, and anyone with good judgment can purchase stock and the products of the farm for fair prices. This is the best place we found for Bohemian families to settle, and if they want to go to a good and profitable business, Yorkton is the place for them to go.

Should anyone want further information from me on these points, or as to any one particular place, I shall be glad to give it on request.

All the land of Western Canada, so far as I saw, is A 1. The wheat is magnificent. I saw 1,000 acres of wheat in one plot, and it was full, healthy, and first-class. The cows, pigs and sheep are all of the very best, and Bohemian people can make no mistake by settling in Northeastern Assiniboia.

We visited the town of Ebenezzer, colonized by Germans, and about ten years old. It lies a few miles north of Yorkton, and is inhabited by wide-awake and good farming people, all well-to-do and able to buy. A great many of well-constructed farm implements are sold in this place. In one store alone 40 mowing machines of the latest design were sold this season. There are a good many Russian and Polish people scattered about this locality, and they would like to have a compatriot or a Bohemian business man establish himself in this district. I believe he would do well. At Yorkton there are three large hotels in full activity and succeeding well. Then they are about to build a railroad to run far down into the prairie land. So there is prosperity everywhere and good times all around.

Yours respectfully,
Rev. John Jednick.

CAN BECOME RICH IN FIVE YEARS.

Ludington, Mich., November 1st, 1897.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Colonization Agent, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: We have just returned from the West, and were exceedingly well pleased with the country. We are going back to take up our homesteads in early spring. We received \$3 per month and board, working for farmers, and the board was the best we ever had—the beef and mutton especially were excellent. The fine flavor is owing to the fine grasses which the cattle and sheep feed upon. The people are very hospitable, and treat their hired help with much kindness.

The grain is much heavier than here, wheat being 62 lbs. to the bushel, oats 48 lbs., and barley often 55 lbs.

Any man with a good team and money enough to buy provisions and seed for six months can become rich there in five years. Many people who arrived there five years ago with little or nothing are well off now. One man I met held his wheat from last year and was offered \$16,000 for this year's crop and what he had held over from last year, and is holding it at \$1.00 per bushel. We are going back in the spring to work for this same farmer until seeding, after which we will homestead between seeding and harvest. We think we will settle on the Manitoba and Northwestern railroad.

You can refer any one to us for this part of the country, while we are here, and we will cheerfully answer any questions which any one may wish to ask.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

Chas. Hawley.
Joseph Dola.

COUNTRY SURPASSES ALL WE HAVE EVER SEEN.

Alameda, N. W. T., Sept. 8th, 1897.

Gentlemen: We have the honor to report back to you, after our tour of investigation made in your behalf. We desire to emphasize that all statements made by Messrs. McInnes and Kellar, regarding Alameda, are more than true. The country surpasses all that we have ever seen. It is slightly rolling, with a clear creek flowing through the district. The hills, or Moose Mountains, to the north, are dotted with beautiful little lakes, surrounded by woods. We found the farmers all busy at threshing wheat—yield is from 25 to 35 bus. to the acre. Alameda is the nearest market, fifteen miles from the centre of the district held for the Wyandotte colony. Here are elevators, churches, schools, stores, etc. The new road will run through the centre of the district, and will be in operation some time next summer. In addition to wheat, all kinds of farm products, excepting corn, are grown in large

quantities. There are also some of the finest cattle we ever saw raised here. There is a cheese factory located in the district, where farmers can dispose of their milk, which nets them about 60 cents per 100 lbs. The farmers are all prosperous. We give this vicinity the preference of all other locations, which we have formerly visited in the United States, and recommend that we, as a whole, join the Wyandotte colony.

Thanking you for the honor bestowed in selecting us to represent you, we submit this report.

(Signed.)

William Riedel,
Albert Mai,
Fred. Gottowski.

Alameda, N. W. T., August 31, 1897.

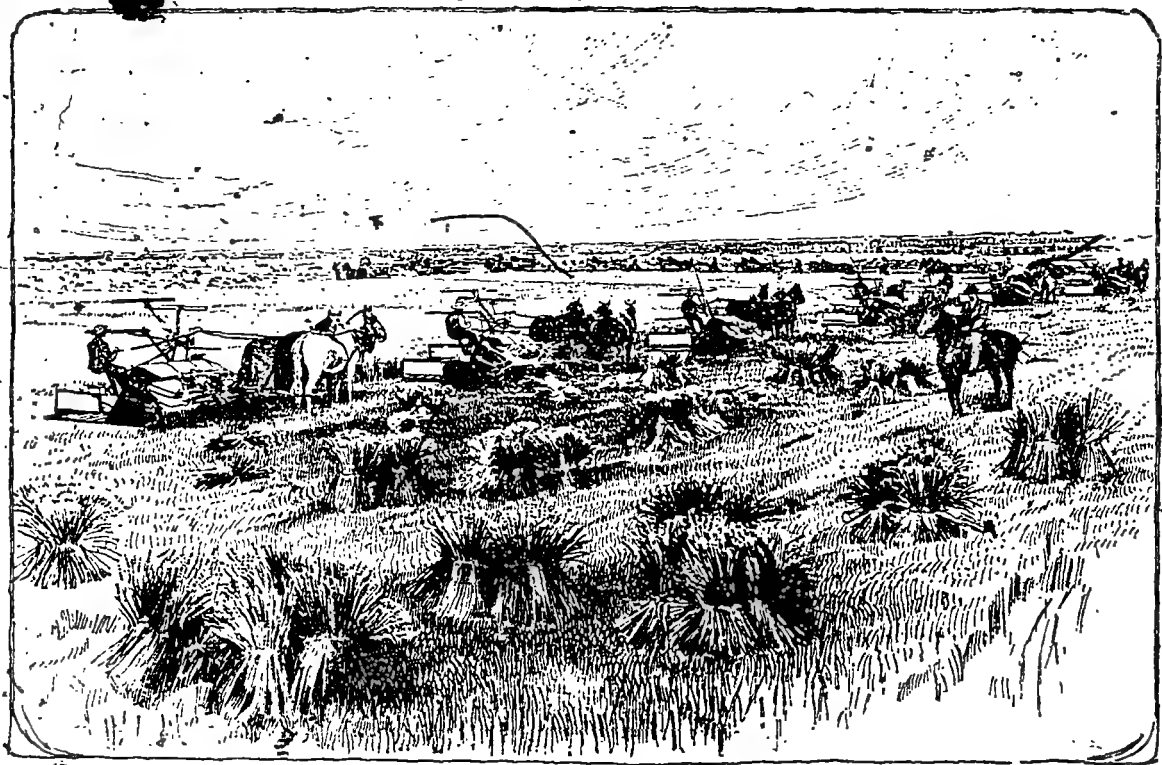
Dear Friends in Saginaw: Those desirous of securing a good and sure home will do well to take our advice and examine the land in the neighborhood of Alameda. As we know that everyone who sees this land will be agreeably surprised. Before seeing this land we were partly in doubt as to moving here, and we beg those of our friends who are desirous of securing farms, not to let this chance slip by, as the soil is of the best, and the water cannot be excelled. The finest wheat we ever saw is also raised here.

We shall return in haste, straighten out our affairs at home and move here at once.

Yours truly,
William Guttowski,
Albert Mey,
William Riedel,
(Of Saginaw.)

THEY ARE FEELING "TIP-TOP."

The Banner is in receipt of a letter from Mr. B. Clark and two sons, who went to Dauphin, Manitoba, the 9th of April last, from Brown City, which reports them having arrived there in due time, all safe and sound. They report that they



EXTENSIVE REAPING IN WESTERN CANADA.

like the country very much, but that the homestead land about Dauphin is mostly all taken up. They report the weather very fine. Burton and Milton Clark and Fred Manns, who accompanied them, have all applied for homesteads on the Swan River Valley about 40 miles from Dauphin. Mr. Clark will buy a farm 7 miles from Dauphin, as a speculation investment, and will sell it in a short time and make a nice little sum. A new railroad is to go right by the places the boys have homesteaded this summer. They say that the country is settling very fast. The boys say they have been out fishing several times, having splendid luck, as the streams there abound with fine fish. Other game they say is very plentiful in the wooded portions. The boys say to tell the Brown City people they are feeling tip-top, never felt better, like the place and intend putting up shanties soon.—Brown City Mich., Banner, May 20th.

Sand Beach, Mich., November 1, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Colonization Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

The first thing that must impress every person visiting Western Canada is its great extent. It is certainly a very large country. The next thing I have to say is that it is a grand country for the farmers; as shown by the splendid crops and the cheapness at which the grain can be raised and marketed. Every place I visited was a surprise to me, and the farmers seemed to be contented and prosperous, as evidenced by their buildings and surroundings.

Around Neepawa and Gladstone I found the crops magnificent, and the farmers, many of whom have been some years in that district, are well supplied with stock, farming implements and comfortable buildings. Around Yorkton the crops are good, equal to any I have seen.

The country around Edmonton cannot be excelled for mixed farming. Small fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, raspberries, etc., grow here in abundance. Dry goods and clothing can be bought as cheap and as good in this country as in Michigan. Altogether, the Canadian West is a country of great possibilities and must be seen to be fully appreciated.

I would say, in conclusion, to any one contemplating to move from Michigan or any other State, go and see the Canadian West for yourself, and you will be sure to do like all who have gone there—that is, take up land and stay there. I will venture a prophesy, that the population of that country will double in the next two or three years.

Accept my thanks for your promptness in furnishing useful information and answering my letters promptly. I am,

Faithfully yours,

(Signed.) T. H. Wade.

Edmonton, Alberta, 31st August, 1898.

Mr. V. McInnes, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
No. 2 Merrill Block, Detroit.

Dear Sir: We, the undersigned delegates, who have been looking over the farming district of Northern Alberta, beg to state that we have found the soil very productive, as is attested by the magnificent crops of wheat and barley to be seen on every hand. In a drive of forty miles in a roundabout country trip, from Edmonton to Fort Saskatchewan, and return, on the south side of the river, we really failed to see a poor piece of grain, while bountiful crops were to be seen on every side.

We took a drive out to St. Albert and vicinity, and splendid crops were in evidence everywhere, the picture could hardly be overdrawn. From what we have seen in over two days' drive, we have come to the conclusion that the country far exceeds what is claimed for it in the Government and C. P. R. pamphlets.

We are now satisfied to go back and sell out and make Alberta our future home and go into mixed farming. Cattle, hogs and sheep do well, and bring a good price. We are more than pleased with the richness of the country, and strongly recommend our friends and acquaintances to come to Alberta.

(Signed.)

P. E. Barley, Michigan.
J. Burrige, Iowa.

CREAMERIES ARE A BOON.

The editor of the Brown City (Mich.) Banner made a trip through Western Canada last summer, and writes in his paper as follows:—

An industry which is proving very advantageous to the settlers of North Alberta, and is truly a boon to the farmers, is the establishment of creameries by the government at regular distances apart. The plan is as follows: The farmers of the community club together and erect a building suitable for the purpose, which, in well settled sections, is a nice looking and substantial building, but in more sparsely settled communities the building is a mere shell roughly constructed, merely serving as a shelter and protection for the machinery. The government then furnishes the entire plant, puts it in and operates it without direct cost to the farmer. From the sale of the butter the government retains 5 cent. per pound, the balance going to the farmer. This is continued for three years, when the government turns over the plant and business to the farmers, giving them a clear title of it. Thus these creameries are put in at a minimum cost to the farmer and paid for in a way that he least feels it. When we were there butter was selling at 21c. and 22c. per pound. The government was trying this scheme as an experiment, and we were informed by the farmers operating the plants that it was likely to prove very satisfactory. Cheese factories were being established, too, along the railroad, and much of the freight loaded on the cars on our return trip consisted of butter and cheese, as it was the best season for milk. The product found a ready market in the mining and lumbering towns and districts beyond the Rockies, through the British Columbia country, where it was, we were told, difficult to supply the demand.

A gardener informed us that he cleared from \$800 to \$1,000 annually from the sale of roots, vegetables, flowers and plants. We here state that we never before saw such a growth of vegetables at that season of the year. He said he raised 750 bushels of onions to the acre. Beets were growing as large as your arm, turnips the size of one's head, and cabbages as large

as a patent pail. Following are prices Mr. Ross gave us as receiving for his produce: Beets, 50c. per bushel; carrots, 40c.; onions, \$1.25; turnips, \$5 per ton; cabbage, 4c. each; green corn, 25c. per doz.; tomatoes, \$1.50 per bushel; potatoes, 25c. to 30c.; cauliflower, \$1.00 per doz.; cucumbers, 15c. per doz.; strawberries, 25c. per box; squash, 4c. per pound, and other produce in proportion."

AN INTERESTING LETTER FROM REV. J. CARSWELL.

The Advantages and Drawbacks of the West.

(Burks Falls Arrow and Huntsville Enterprise, Sept. 9, 1898.)
To the Editor of The Arrow and Enterprise.

Dear Sir: When I left Manitoba on the 24th inst., the harvest was about two-thirds over, and there had been no frost to do any injury, except in low lying districts, and even there there seemed to be great diversity of opinion as to the amount of injury done, many holding that the frost was too light to do any harm. They cut from ten to twenty acres a day. I heard of a farmer who had two machines at work, and these cut thirty acres a day, or fifteen acres each. There are two kinds of threshing, designated as stack threshing and stook threshing, the former being usually later in the season than the other. Stook threshing is done just as soon as the grain is dry and a machine can be obtained. The machine is stationed alongside of one of the barns or granaries, or in some central position in the field and the grain is drawn in to it, some ten or twelve teams being required for that purpose. The fuel consumed is straw, a little wood being required to start with, or, in the absence of that, sheaves of grain are used. The grain seems to come from the machine sufficiently clean for the market, and if near enough elevators, it is taken at once to them and there stored until a sale is effected. Where this cannot be done, it is stored in barns and granaries, the grain being deposited into them by elevators, with which machines

are furnished. The usual cost of threshing is seven cents a bag and boarding the men.

In closing, I might briefly summarize the advantages afforded and drawbacks to be met with in that new country. Let us take the advantages first:—

1. A healthy climate, cool nights and refreshing breezes during the day.

2. Better prospects for getting on in the world, especially for young people, tradesmen, farmers on rented farms or on poor land.

3. A rich, almost inexhaustible soil, producing good crops year after year, with little cultivation.

4. Cheap land, homesteads, a little back from the lines of railway, and land to be bought at from \$2 to \$5 an acre.

5. Possibility of putting in a crop at once without having to wait till the land is cleared. By going out immediately after harvest considerable breaking up can be done and land prepared for sowing in the early spring.

6. Cash for all products of the farm, and so money in circulation everywhere; no cents there.

7. Level roads in summer and no drifts in winter.

Among the drawbacks may be mentioned:—

1. Cost of building material. Lumber of all kinds is very high, but in some places stone and brick can be obtained at reasonable rates.

2. Expense of a farmer's outfit; so much machinery is required, much of what is used in the east being found useless.

3. Danger of frost and hail. By these two scourges the hopes of the husbandman have often been blasted in the past.

4. Scarcity and dearthness of fuel. In some localities wood has to be drawn a great distance.

5. The difficulty of getting good water in some localities. In low districts it strongly tastes of alkali, and is not at all pleasant.

6. The severity of the winter and the danger arising from blizzards. Still, last winter was just as pleasant as we had in Ontario, and the people out there say they do not feel the cold any more than here. But I have already trespassed too

much on your space, and so I bid your readers good-bye.
J. Carswell.

TO PERSONS IN NEBRASKA WHO CONTEMPLATE MAKING A MOVE:

I have lived in Nebraska for the last 31 years, farming and stock raising being my occupation. My attention was drawn to the Canadian Northwest by a pamphlet received from Mr. Bennett, the Canadian Government immigration agent in Omaha, and as there are a large number of my friends living in Nebraska, who are unable, owing to the high price of land, excessive taxation, poor crops and hard times, generally low prices, to make or acquire home for themselves or their families, I was induced by my friends to visit Western Canada, and particularly Alberta, for the purpose of satisfying myself and my friends whether the reports made by the Government agents, railway representatives and also distributed in the pamphlets were correct and could be thoroughly relied upon. I travelled straight through to Calgary, where I left the main line of the C. P. R. Company and boarded the north-bound train of the Calgary & Edmonton railway. The first place I left the train was at Lacombe, where I remained from Friday evening to Monday. I visited Friend Bagley, who formerly lived in Nebraska, and who was kind and showed me as much of that locality as he could in the short time I was there. I was much impressed by what I saw in the Lacombe district, and the settlers appear to me to be a very prosperous and contented lot of people. Mr. Bagley showed me two lots of thoroughbred cattle, which I considered first-class.

I also learned while there that the most successful grain-growers were those who had been careful in the selection of their farms and who had selected high and dry lands for grain fields. Being a cattle raiser nearly all my life, I never pass a bunch of cattle without noticing in what condition they are, and I was therefore much struck with the fine condition of

the cattle in the Lacombe district and throughout Alberta wherever I saw them.

The next place I stopped off was Edmonton. I came to the conclusion that to secure a suitable location for stock raising, it would be necessary to go some considerable distance east, so as to get well out of the thickly settled localities.

Shortly after my arrival in Edmonton I met Mr. Eugene Clark, of Beaver Hills, Pa., who moved from Nebraska to Alberta about three and a half years ago. He being acquainted about the country with the best locations, he took me home to his farm, which is located about eight miles south of Fort Saskatchewan, a very fine locality. There is a school house and creamery skimming station in his neighborhood, and at Fort Saskatchewan a first-class roller flour mill. They had not received returns from the creamery, showing amount of butter sold, manufactured, etc., but from what I could learn everybody is well satisfied at the way this creamery, and those in other districts I visited, were operated by the government. Mr. Clark has applied for a patent to his 160 acres. He considers that he has done exceedingly well by making the move he did. I met Mr. Doze, the postmaster at Beaver Hills, and stopped a night at his place. He has a very fine farm and a large number of live stock, including horses, cattle, sheep and pigs. From Beaver Hills I travelled to Mr. Lovering's farm, about 25 or 30 miles southeast, mostly east, and it was going there I passed through what I would consider a timber country, but which has not a very attractive appearance owing to a large fire which burned through the district a couple of years ago. The land has the appearance of being very rich, but as I was looking for a grazing location, I did not pay much attention to the soil, although, judging from the quantity and quality of the straw and the way the land lies, it must be very rich.

After thoroughly examining the Beaver Lake district, I have decided to move there; in fact, I have already taken up a homestead, made a purchase of stock and written to my family and some of my relations to come. I would not advise any

one to locate near me who intends to make his specialty grain growing, as the distance is too far from the market, which is at South Edmonton, where there are five large elevators, a big flour mill and a very big oatmeal mill. They were paying 8 cents for oats and 65 cents for good quality of wheat when I was there. Between Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan, along the south side of the Saskatchewan river, is as fine a general farming country as I ever saw. It is well settled. All homesteads are taken up, but some good railroad lands are yet left. It lies beautifully, and is of a gently rolling nature. Black loam soil. Where we stopped for dinner, when returning to Edmonton, we were told that five pieces of railroad land had been sold within a few days to parties who intended going into immediate occupation and making improvements.

I have written several letters home since reaching Alberta, and my advice to all has been to come and see the country before deciding to move, as then, in the event of their anticipations not being fully realized, it is not too late or expensive to return home, as it would be if they sold out everything in Nebraska. For full particulars as to how to secure this low rate, parties should write to Mr. W. V. Bennett, 801 New York Life Building, Omaha, Nebraska, from whom I got the reduced rates.

Yours truly,

L. L. Darling

Delegate from Lyons, Neb.

Present address, Lacombe, Alberta, Canada.

Feb. 10, 1898.

THE ELGIN DAIRY REPORT (ELGIN, ILL., U.S.)

Elgin, Ill., March 14th, 1899.

R. W. Chamberlain,
192 West Ave., Rochester, N.Y.

Dear Sir: I have your favor asking for information regarding the Canadian Northwest, particularly the districts between Calgary and Edmonton. I fully covered that terri-

tory during my Canadian trip last summer. I visited every creamery man along the line, talked with them and went over the route five or six times in various ways. I can assure you that there is a great interest being manifested in the dairy business in that section, and dairying seems to be the solution of the problem for the farmers along that line. Lands are very cheap; milk can be produced at moderate rates, and the Government handling the creameries there largely, the sale for milk is certain, and at good fair prices. They charge a certain amount for making up the milk, paying so much each month on the output, and at the end of the season when the goods are sold, paying the balance.

In some of the factories they are putting up the butter in tins for the Oriental trade, one factory having received an order for 10,000 lbs. while I was there, and I see that there has been a large amount of trade done with Japan and the Orient from that section. If you will correspond with Mr. C. W. Marker, Government Superintendent of Creameries in that Territory, whose address is Calgary, Alta., no doubt you can get more definite information than I can give you. The cost of producing milk in that Territory is very low because lands are so cheap; and during the summer the cattle pasture so that really it costs the owners nothing. The class of farmers in that section is superior, as pioneers generally are. They are good workers, and although possessed of but little means, they are pushing and energetic people.

If there is any further information you may desire particularly, advice me and I shall be glad to give it to you.

Yours truly,

The Elgin Dairy Report.

(Signed)

D. W. Wilson.

A FARMERS' PARADISE.

From the Alexandria Citizen:—

Dear Sir: After an extensive trip over the territory of

Alberta, we are once more back home. We went 40 miles northwest of Edmonton, and we must say we travelled over more good farming land than we ever saw in one part of North America. All the way from Numaka to the Quebar river, a distance of 288 miles, the land is very fertile, composed of deep sand and vegetable loam, with good clay sub-soil, with several fine rivers running through the country, which are fringed with a fine growth of valuable timber. The land is generally level, just slope enough to properly drain it. The soil, for grain raising and stock raising, is the best we ever saw, and no part of the American continent can compare with it for vegetables and root crops. We travelled on foot 116 miles, and called upon the farmers, making inquiries of them, the amount of grain raised, the prices received for such, and the prices paid for farm machinery, the cost of wood, coal, hay, horses, cattle, etc. We visited five coal mines where many men were employed. We also went among the gold diggings, and saw many thousand dollars of the yellow stuff which so many men are striving to secure. We drank water from a large number of wells, and found it all soft, pure and cool. We brought home about 20 samples of grain, which we took from the farmers' granaries ourselves, and it can be seen at the office of J. A. McKay, in Alexandria, Minn. All the small grain and root crops were sown and planted before we left Edmonton, May 27th, and all were looking fine.

We found many who had been there from 2 to 8 years, and all were well satisfied and contented with the change they had made. One farmer last season raised 21,000 bushels of wheat and oats, none less than several thousand. We have the addresses of over 50 farmers in Alberta, and any Doubting Thomas who wishes can receive these addresses and write them if they wish. During the year 1898, over 920 homestead entries were made at Edmonton and Red Deer points alone.

Over 2,700 people from the United States have secured homes in the Northwestern Territory during 1898. We have much valuable information concerning this country, and will

be glad to give any information we have to parties desiring same.

We stopped two days in the City of Winnipeg a beautiful and prosperous city of 50,000 inhabitants. We also visited the experimental farm at Brandon, a fine village of 5,800 people. The experimental farm is situated on a fine spot on the Assiniboine river, and is laid out in a very artistic manner, among hedges of cypress, willow, box elder, and Russian poplar. We stopped at Qu'Appelle, Regina, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Medicine Hat, Langevin and Calgary, all good towns. But our stamping ground was to be Edmonton country, and we hurried on to that point, a distance of 1077 miles northwest of Winnipeg.

We landed at Strathcona, known as South Edmonton, the terminus of the C. P. Ry. It has a population of 1,000 inhabitants. Edmonton has a population of 3,500 people, and is a fine village with good waterworks, and lighted by electricity. A large mercantile business is done there. Both towns are located on the Saskatchewan river, which runs for hundreds of miles through the finest farming country in the world.

We feel it our duty to kindly thank the employees of the C. P. Ry. for their gentlemanly manner toward us during our trip. We are indebted to them for much valuable information, and many accommodations, and found them capable of taking charge of the finest railroad running across the continent.

J. A. McKay.
Andrew Shields.

ANOTHER ILLINOIS MAN LIKES THE COUNTRY.

Clifton, Ill., June 17th, 1899.

C. J. Broughton, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
1223 Monadnock Building, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: I returned here to-day from a trip to Leduc and the Edmonton district, Alberta, Canada, and found the country fully what you represented it to be.

The cattle I saw were better than Illinois cattle. One man told me he sold ninety head in April at \$53 per head.

The horses I did not think quite as good as ours, but they were very fair, and I would advise any one going to that country to take their horses with them if they were good ones.

The land is an excellent quality, being a rich black loam, with clay sub-soil, and will grow anything. In talking to several farmers from the United States who are living in the Edmonton district, I learned that the wheat yielded an average of 35 bushels per acre and brought 50 cents per bushel. Oats yielded 75 bushels per acre and were selling then (June, 1899,) at 45 cents per bushel, and potatoes yielded 500 bushels per acre.

These prices are more than good when you take into consideration the cheapness of the land and the light taxes. Every one I talked with was quite satisfied, and to show you that I was, I have bought N.E. and S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 31, Tp. 49, Rge. 24 W. 4th, and I expect to move to Canada soon.

Hogs were bringing 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. live weight.

Yours truly,
Walter Lynge.

AN OHIO DELEGATION SPIES OUT THE LAND.

Colebrook, Ashtabula County, Ohio,

September 20th, 1899.

M. V. McInnes, Can. Goyt. Agent,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: We, the undersigned delegates, nominated by farmers of Colebrook, Ashtabula County, in the State of Ohio, to investigate the land and opportunities of Western Canada, take great pleasure in reporting to you as follows:

We visited Manitoba, Assiniboia and Alberta, and took particular notice of the soil, the natural resources of the country, and the various kinds of crops it produces. On examination, we found the soil around Winnipeg to be a rich

black loam of surprising depth and fertility, producing the most wonderful crops of wheat and other grain. This depth and richness of soil continues throughout the country westward, north and south, all along the splendid line of the Canadian Pacific Railway as far west as Calgary and as far north as Edmonton. It culminates, so far as we could observe, at Brandon in Manitoba.

Here, at and around the Government Experimental Farm, the beautiful loamy soil is from 18 inches to 4 feet in depth. The manager of the Experimental Farm informed us that the crops taken from the farm averaged about as follows:—

Wheat	33 bus. per acre.
Oats	85 to 95 bus. per acre.
Barley	50 to 65 bus. per acre.
Potatoes	400 to 600 bus. per acre.
Mangles	18 to 20 tons per acre.
Brome Grass	4 tons per acre.

And other crops in like proportions.

Let it be remembered that these averages are from a farm cultivated in a scientific manner for 10 years without the aid of manure or a commercial fertilizer of any sort. Knowing that the soil of Manitoba is all pretty much of the same rich quality and productiveness as that of the Experimental Farm at Brandon, is it any wonder that such immense harvests crown the labors of the husbandman year after year in the grand agricultural Province of Manitoba.

Going westward from Brandon we passed through Assiniboia, and inspected the country as far as Moose Jaw. The land, the crops, the people—all astonished us. Everything was on a large scale. As far as the eye could reach immense wheat fields stretched their giant proportions in undulations away to the western horizon. The farmers of this favored

region told us the average of these crops almost equalled those of the Experimental Farm, and that they varied very little from year to year. They said they were seldom bothered with the necessity of manuring their fields, that the land was generally its own fertilizer.

From Moose Jaw westwardly to Alberta and the Rocky Mountains, the people are almost exclusively devoted to the raising of cattle and horses, which is a most profitable business, inasmuch as the animals are never stall-fed, they are simply pastured on the wild prairie hay and grasses that grow everywhere about in the wildest profusion and may be had for the cutting. This manner of feeding continues throughout the winter, the horses and cattle graze out without shelter, even at his season of the year, and make sound flesh very rapidly. When we say, and we do so without hesitation, that these animals are superior to the stall-fed cattle of Ohio, some idea may be had of the wonderful fertility and advantages of the Canadian West.

At three years old the steers raised on these prairie lands sell from \$40 to \$50 each and when it is considered that it costs practically nothing to raise them, it will be seen at a glance what a remunerative business cattle raising on the western plains of Canada must be.

With reference to Alberta, we wish to say that; excellent and wonderfully abundant as the crops were in Manitoba and Assiniboia for mixed farming and cattle raising, Northern Alberta seems to be superior, especially that large section lying near Gull Lake and westward of Lacombe. We found in these localities splendid and abundant water, both in wells and streams, and great quantities of wood, and hay. We were astonished to find the oats in fields near Gull Lake growing upwards of five feet high, which doubtless would yield 100 bushels to the acre, and we saw wild hay four feet in height, covering the ground wherever it was allowed to grow.

In this favored region root crops and vegetables attain to an enormous size, and saskatoons, strawberries, high and low bush cranberries and raspberries grow wild in great

abundance. We saw here some of the finest cattle in America and a great troop of horses, well conditioned, sleek and agile, that never fed on anything but the natural hay and grass.

Altogether the whole country west from Winnipeg to Edmonton produces most wonderful crops, flocks and herds and all the farmers need. The lakes and rivers teem with wholesome fish and game of all sorts can be had in all corners of the uncultivated lands.

If any farmer or farmer's son desires to better his condition by changing his residence, we would recommend him by all means to settle in some part of Western Canada, and particularly in the Province of Northern Alberta.

The country in the Edmonton district impressed us so very favorably that each of us took up a homestead claim at the thriving village of Lacombe, and we will advise all those farmers from our own section of Ohio who may be seeking desirable homes to do likewise.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours with respect,

F. B. Barber,
W. S. Wood.

SYNOPSIS OF HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS, ETC.

New arrivals in Manitoba will find government officials and offices ready to supply all information concerning lands and the districts where farming land can be had.

All even-numbered sections, excepting 8 and 26, are open for homestead entry (160 acres) by any person's sole head of a family, or any male over the age of 18 years.

Entry may be made personally at the local land office for the district in which the land to be taken is situated, or if the homesteader desires, he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Ottawa, receive authority for some one to be named by the intending settler near the local office to make the entry for him. Entry fee, \$10. or if cancelled land, \$20.

Under the law, homestead duties are to be performed by three years' cultivation and residence, during which period the settler may not be absent for more than six months in any one year, without forfeiting the entry.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT.

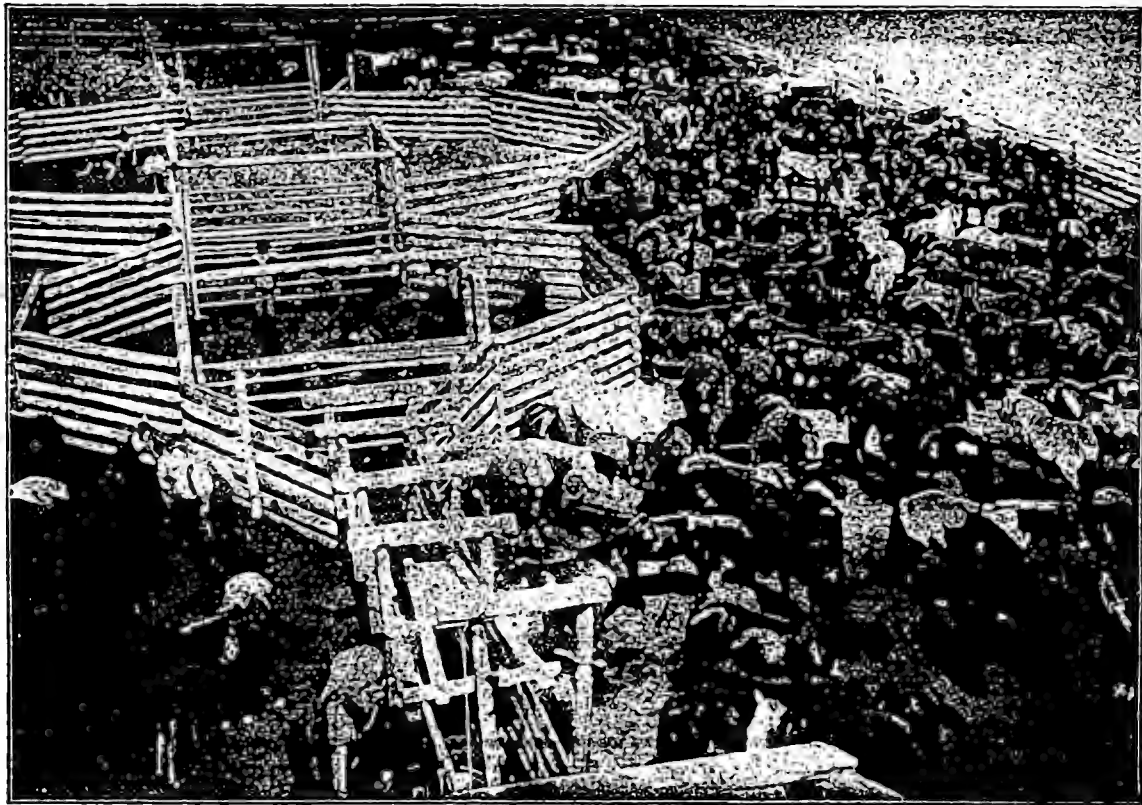
Application may be made before the local agent, or any homestead inspector. Six months' notice must be given in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands by a settler of his intention prior to making application for patent.

If the settler has money, he can find farms well improved and in advanced cultivation, when he can commence on a scale as extensive as he likes.

If he has but little means and desires to rent the first year he can get properties to suit him with or without teams, implements and seed, with the owner ready to assist him. As teams and implements can be bought on liberal time by paying from a quarter to a third down, as land can be got anywhere by giving a portion of the crop as first payment; and as seed can be got on time by giving a mortgage on the crop, a start can easily be made with little means; but to succeed under such circumstances, a good crop and fair prices, with great economy in the settler must follow. Other methods of settling are open to the emigrant, but these are most commonly adopted. In all cases it is very advantageous to the settler to commence with a couple of milch cows, some pigs and poultry, as they are very easily kept through summer and winter, and are a great help towards keeping the family while the crops are growing. As is shown in another section, the settler should also see to it that in addition to his wheat crop he should put in plenty of roots and vegetables for his own use, if not for sale. They grow with but little labor, and are a great assistance in house-keeping.

RAILWAY LANDS.

Railway lands consist of the odd-numbered sections along the main line of the Canadian Pacific and branches, and in



R. G. ROBINSON'S CORRALS IN WESTERN CANADA.

the Saskatchewan, Battle and Red River districts. The railway lands are for sale at the various agencies of the company in the United Kingdom, Eastern Canada and the Northwest Territories, at the following prices:—

Lands in the province of Manitoba average \$3 to \$6 an acre. Lands in the province of Assiniboia, east of the 3rd meridian, average \$3 to \$4 an acre. Lands west of the 3rd meridian, including most of the valuable lands in the Calgary district, \$3 per acre. Lands in Saskatchewan, Battle and Red Deer districts, \$3 per acre.

The Canada Northern and Manitoba and Northwestern Railways also have lands for sale along their lines at about the same prices.

If paid for in full at the time of purchase, a reduction from the price will be allowed equal to 10 per cent. on the amount paid in excess of the usual cash instalment and a Deed of Conveyance will be given; but the purchaser may

pay in ten yearly instalments, including interest at 6 per cent.

NATURALIZATION.

Every person who is of the full age of twenty-one years, and not an idiot, lunatic or married woman, can become a British subject as a Canadian. The person must have resided in Canada not less than three years, or been in the service of the Government of Canada or any of the Provinces of Canada, for not less than two years. He must take the oath of allegiance, and also an oath that he intends to remain in Canada. If a British subject desires to throw off his allegiance he may do so. He is also entitled to resume it. These proceedings are called "expatriation" and "repatriation." Aliens may hold property in all respects as British subjects, but they are not qualified for the municipal or parliamentary franchise; nor can an alien be an owner of a British ship.

If, after reading this pamphlet, any further information is required, application may be made to any of the following officials:

IN CANADA

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF IMMIGRATION,
Department of Interior, Ottawa.

THE COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

IN THE UNITED STATES

M. V. McINNES,
No. 2 Merrill Block, Detroit, Michigan.

D. L. CAVEN,
Springfield, Ohio.

JAMES GRIEVE,
Saginaw, Michigan.

J. S. CRAWFORD,
214 W. 9th St., Kansas City, Missouri.

BENJAMIN DAVIES,
154 1/2 East Third Street, St. Paul, Minn.

T. O. CURRIE,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

C. J. BROUGHTON,
1223 Monadnock Building, Chicago, Ill.

W. V. BENNETT,
801 N. Y. Life Building, Omaha, Neb.

W. H. ROGERS,
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J. H. M. PARKER,
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WILLIAM RITCHIE,
Grafton, North Dakota.

E. T. HOLMES,
Indianapolis, Indiana.



